

Rams will be rams.

Simon LeVay, Ph.D. gets up close and personal with some gay sheep.

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The human cost

of SSI eligibility cuts: homelessness and poverty.

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**Walkabout**

Nicolas Roeg's film masterpiece comes to the Castro Theatre.

see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 1 • 2 January 1997

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 25 years

Is it time for the SF AIDS Foundation to

by Cynthia Laird

downsize?

AIDSOPHOBIC, UNION-BUSTING SFAF EXEC GETS PAID SIX-FIGURE SALARY.

Hello kitty: SFAF's Pat Christen has some detractors, as this flier indicates.

'We've created a monster'

Over the past few months, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF), one of the largest AIDS service organizations in the country, has received increasing criticism about its finances as more people discuss the future of AIDS services in light of changes in the epidemic and treatment options. The criticism has come from AIDS activists ranging

"It's not just the SFAF, it's the whole AIDS service structure [that] is too big," Calvaneo told the B.A.R. "It's 'corporatized' to a degree that it's undermining its ability to serve PWAs."

Calvaneo briefly recalled the development of what he says has now become a "monster."

"A decade ago, PWAs were looking for help, and they decided to create their own organizations. They did that very successfully, and the lesbian and gay community deserves credit for this," Calvaneo said. "But I feel like we've created a monster. Ten years ago I used to fight the establishment, now I'm fighting the same battles except it's the AIDS structure."

"I think a lot of people are very reluctant to criticize the AIDS structure, and many personal livelihoods are

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Cafe manager denies hiring CBC narc

by Cynthia Laird

The Cafe is disputing flyers posted throughout the Castro early Christmas Eve urging a boycott of the popular Market Street gay bar because San Francisco police officer Joe Bannon works there. Bannon, a gay cop, was one of the officers involved in the undercover investigation of the Cannabis Buyers Club (CBC). The management of The Cafe denies Bannon is a paid employee providing security.

A letter that appeared in the December 26 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter* also drew attention to Bannon's presence at The Cafe. David Smith, who wrote the letter, called Bannon a "traitor" to the community. Smith told the B.A.R. that he and some friends walked about The Cafe about a month ago and

saw Bannon, who appeared to be working at the door of the bar.

In an exclusive interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Bannon said he does not and has never worked at the Cafe.

"I never worked at the Cafe," he said. "I certainly go there."

Bannon said he stands outside the club and socializes with friends because he's allergic to smoke.

Bannon adamantly denied accusations made by Smith in his letter that Bannon "posed as an AIDS patient to enter the Buyers Club."

"That's an absolute falsehood. I actually never became a member; I walked in and purchased marijuana. That's a matter of public record," Bannon said.

Bannon did say he is frustrated that he's been unable to publicly discuss the CBC investigation.

"I don't think you can fathom the amount of frustration I'm going through at not being able to make a statement about involvement in the case," Bannon said. "This investigation was never meant to target sick people or the AIDS community. It was to target a scam using sick people as a cover. It was my intention to protect the community."

DOCTORS AGREE '215 IS GOOD MEDICINE'



Poster boy: This flier accuses SFPD officer Joe Bannon of helping to shut down the CBC and calls for a boycott of The Cafe.

Morgan Gorrono, manager of The Cafe, was also adamant that neither Bannon nor any other San Francisco police officer works security at the bar.

"Joe Bannon has never been an employee at The Cafe," Gorrono told the B.A.R. "He's a customer. We have all of our own se-

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FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS

Gay pols' swearing-in announced

Newly elected and openly lesbian member of the San Francisco Board of Education member Dr. Juanita Owens will take the oath of office for the post this Tuesday, January 7th at 6 p.m. The ceremony and reception will take place at Everett Middle School, located at 450 Church Street between 15th and 16th streets. Parking is available behind the school.

Lesbian Supervisor Leslie Katz will be sworn in at the Board of Supervisors chambers Wednesday, January 8 at 3 p.m. She and her supporters will celebrate later that evening at the Alta Plaza, located at Fillmore and Clay streets, from 7:30-9 p.m.

Openly lesbian Municipal Court Judge-elect Kay Tsenin will take the oath of office at 3 p.m. on Friday, January 10th, her 50th birthday, in the Board of Supervisors chambers. The Board of Supervisor chambers are located at the temporary City Hall at 401 Van Ness Avenue. A reception will follow in the Green Room on the second floor. ▶

— Dennis Conkin



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Gay synagogue finds larger quarters

by Dennis Conkin

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav has outgrown the Danvers Street synagogue it has occupied since 1974, and will purchase the 16th and Dolores Street site of the former Comisky-Roche funeral home.

The Bay Area's most popular lesbian and gay Jewish synagogue announced December 23 that it has begun a \$1.3 million capital campaign to purchase the building at 209 Dolores Street. The renovated site will not be ready for occupancy until next fall, according to CSZ spokeswoman Tiela Chalmers.

Sha'ar Zahav's move from the Upper Castro district to the Mission Street building is due to the congregation's five-fold growth in membership over the last decade. The congregation has 500 adult members — and 130 children.



Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's new home at 16th and Dolores sts.

The sanctuary in the former funeral home seats 250 people, double the capacity of the former site. The new building will also accommodate several meeting rooms, educational facilities, a larger Rabbi's study, a library, and administrative offices.

Founded in 1977 by three gay

men inspired by gay outreach synagogues in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, Sha'ar Zahav means "Golden Gate" in Hebrew. ▼

For more information about the fund drive, contact the congregation offices at 861-6932.

Jeff Getty: He's a 'People' person

by Mike Salinas

Bay Area AIDS activist Jeff Getty was named one of *People* magazine's 25 most intriguing people of the year, almost exactly a year after he underwent the world's first bone marrow xenotransplant in December 1995. Getty volunteered for the experimental technique in hopes that the bone marrow cells of a baboon would graft onto his own immune system and strengthen its resistance to HIV. The grafting did not take place as hoped, but the combination of therapies he received in preparation for the procedure had a noticeable positive effect on his health.

During and after the xenotransplant, Getty received hate mail from animal rights activists who questioned whether a human life was worth the sacrifice of a baboon, and was attacked by some researchers who feared he could transmit baboon diseases to the general population.

Getty, who was first infected



Most intriguing: Jeff Getty

with HIV in the 1970s, argues that shepherds and other animal-handlers also act as conduits for animal-to-human disease transmission, and that xenotransplants are a logical and necessary path of exploration for medical science. Since the procedure he has become a frequent lecturer and television guest.

Getty told the B.A.R. he had not been told by *People* that he was on the list, and only discovered it by accident while leafing through magazines at an East Bay bookstore last weekend. ▼

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Catch the Cable Cars by Monday or not at all

by Dennis Conkin

Nominations for the 23rd annual Cable Car Awards, honoring the contributions and service of lesbian and gay community organizations and individuals, are due by this Monday, January 6, according to co-chairs of the ceremony.

"The theme this year is 'Outstanding,' emphasizing recognition of the very best achievements in our community throughout the past year," said Linda Parios, co-chair of the event.

According to Parios and co-chair Marcus Wonacott, nominations for the 1997 awards must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than January 6. The annual awards dinner will be held on March 22.

Award categories include community service, community activism, contribution to community well-being, community event (not to be confused with "event," "competition event," or "women's community event"), contribution by a women's community organization, contribution by a business, contribution by a small business, event by an individual or small business, theme decoration, and fundraiser. Individuals may be recognized as woman of the year, man of the year, sportsman of the year, sports-woman of the year, disk jockey, columnist, journalist, critic, or entertainer of the year.

Once nominated, Cable Car Award recipients can be selected for the award either by public vote, by committee selection, or by acknowledgment of the board of directors.

"To create higher community participation, we have expanded our public vote through the use of local newspapers," Wonacott said, "in addition to voting prior to and during the awards event at the venue."

As in previous years, all public voting will be tabulated solely by an independent accounting firm. ▼

Nominations may be made in writing to 2336 Market Street #108, San Francisco CA 94114 or by e-mail at nominate@cablecar.org. The website address for the Cable Car Awards is www.cablecar.org.

Katz, supes address domestic partner issue

by Cynthia Laird

In what has become an ongoing effort to implement the city's new domestic partner benefit ordinance, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a resolution Monday, December 23 urging the mayor and city departments to include language of the new ordinance in all contracts and leases that come up for renewal before the new law goes into effect.

Supervisor Leslie Katz brought the resolution to the board, saying a supervisors' committee has tabled renewals for several longterm leases because they did not contain provisions for the new domestic partner benefit law.

Mayor Willie Brown signed an ordinance into law in November that requires all businesses contracting with the city to provide benefits to employees' domestic partners if they offer benefits to spouses. The law's implementation was delayed, to "provide contracting entities and the city time to prepare rules and regulations regarding this ordinance," and is expected to take effect June 1, 1997.

"Given the fact that we're delaying the effective date of the domestic partner legislation, we didn't want leases entered into for a significant period of time that did not include this provision," Katz

told the B.A.R. following the meeting.

Some of the longterm leases are for 10-20 years, she pointed out.

Under the resolution, the mayor and city departments are urged to include a provision requiring compliance with the ordinance, once it goes into effect, in all leases and contracts entered into by the city and county of San Francisco. Additionally, Katz stated in the resolution that the supervisors want the ordinance implemented in a fair and equitable manner.

The city's Human Rights Commission has been charged with developing rules and regulations for implementing the ordinance. The HRC plans to hold meetings in an effort to help businesses understand the ordinance and how to implement it. ▼



Supervisor Leslie Katz.

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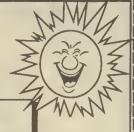
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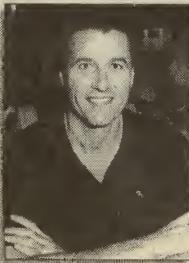
Christmas fairy



Rick Gerharter

Billy DeHerrera entertains the crowd with a campy 1950s Christmas tune during the Dec. 21 Babes in Toyland, Pleasuredome's annual fundraiser for the UCSF Pediatric HIV/AIDS Treatment Center. Funds raised last year were enough to purchase a van, plus more than six large boxes of toys were distributed.

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Pride Parade logo design sought by Wed.

by Mike Salinas

The committee in charge of the 1997 San Francisco Pride Parade has announced a design competition to select a logo for this year's celebration, based on the theme "One Community, Many Faces." Anyone may submit a design for the logo, which will be used as part of the June gay pride event's publicity and merchandising campaign.

The contest winner will get \$500, plus the satisfaction of seeing the selected design reproduced on billboards, T-shirts, and other merchandise at the world's largest celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender pride.

Interested artists had better be quick draws, however: the contest closes this Wednesday, January 8 at 5 p.m., and any entries received after that deadline will be disqualified.

Entrants are asked to submit camera-ready designs in both color and black-and-white formats, reflecting the "One Community, Many Faces" theme.

"The 1997 theme is a reflection of the myriad individuals who make up the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community," according to Ron Hebshe, public relations chairperson for the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration

Committee, Inc. "The idea was to choose a theme that celebrates both that which unites us and the unique qualities that make each of us a very special part of the whole."

"Considering the variety of racial, ethnic, social, and political groups that come together to produce and enjoy this event, 'One Community, Many Faces' is a fitting theme."

Artists should make sure their names, mailing addresses, and telephone numbers are on the back of their entries before mailing or delivering them to the

committee's Fox Plaza offices.

The winning entry will be selected at the SFLGBTCC general meeting on Sunday, January 12. The public is invited to attend that and all other general meetings. ▼

Entries may be mailed to 1390 Market Street, Suite 1225, San Francisco CA 94102. For additional information, call the parade office at (415) 864-FREE or e-mail the office at SFPride@aol.com

Muni out of control? Yup.

by Dennis Conkin

A runaway Municipal Railway light rail vehicle jumped its track as it was being towed up a steep hill at the corner of 18th and Church Street on Sunday afternoon, December 29th.

The 73-foot car was being towed to the Muni repair shop at the top of 20th and Church when it became unhitched from two other cars and sped off the tracks at 18th Street.

The streetcar slid a half block along pavement before coming to a stop at Mission High School at 18th and Church. Along the way it smashed into six cars and sheared a utility pole, downing power lines at the scene.

The unidentified Muni driver, and a heterosexual couple in a car struck by the streetcar, were treated for minor injuries and released.

Cranes were brought in to move the smashed cars. The streetcar was a total \$1.5 million loss and will be salvaged for parts, according to Muni. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

AIDS Office annual report cites progress and its future goals

by Cynthia Laird

The San Francisco AIDS Office's 1995-96 Annual Report shows that over \$49 million was spent on contracted AIDS services in fiscal year 1995, and while new treatments offer some hope for making the disease manageable, much remains to be accomplished. Most notably, the report said, more work is necessary to ensure that all people, regardless of income, will have access to expensive protease inhibitor drugs.

AIDS is now the number one cause of death for men of all ages in San Francisco. Since 1981, 15,590 people diagnosed with AIDS have died in the city.

There are 7,346 people now living with AIDS in San Francisco, the report stated. It pointed out that the epidemiological profile of cumulative cases of HIV/AIDS in the city is strikingly different from the rest of the country. Men who have sex with men, including those who inject drugs, comprise the majority, 93 percent, of San Francisco's cases, compared with only 68 percent nationally.

Injection drug use is the most common risk category for females, accounting for 56 percent of the cases among women in San Francisco compared to 47 percent nationwide.

The report pointed out that an increasing percentage of AIDS cases are now occurring among people of color and women. The epidemic is also a serious problem among gay and bisexual youth. A 1993 survey of San Francisco young gay and bisexual men (17-22 years) found that 9.4 percent were HIV-positive. African-American young gay and bisexuals were at highest risk, with 21 percent infected.

Individuals in the transgender community also appear to have high rates of infection, the report stated. One study found that of transgender persons surveyed, 14 percent tested positive for HIV.

Down to zero

This diversity of the AIDS population, combined with inadequate insurance coverage, the high cost of AIDS treatment, and the high incidence of AIDS cases, all represent special challenges to the city's response to the epidemic, the report stated.

Norm Nickens, assistant director of the AIDS Office, agreed, telling the B.A.R., "The department faced the challenges of providing more services to more individuals with declining funding sources. The department and our providers are to be commended for their work over the course of the year."

Surveillance studies done by the AIDS Office monitor the incidence of severe HIV-related immunosuppression, morbidity and mortality, and identify trends in emerging modes of HIV transmission.

"By conducting surveillance, timely data is gathered to monitor trends in AIDS survival and to assess the relative impact that the

AIDS epidemic is having on the people of San Francisco," the report stated.

The report also lauded the AIDS Office's health and prevention services branch, while acknowledging the challenge of helping people change attitudes and behaviors that put them at risk for HIV infection.

Prevention programs include:

- San Francisco's needle exchange program, one of the few publicly-funded operations of its kind. The report stated that in the past year, the program exchanged over 1.5 million syringes for injection drug users at 12 locations in the city.

- Programs that target people of color, women, and children. One program that provides medical and psychosocial services for HIV-infected women and their children on the same day at the same site has been "astoundingly successful, serving over three times as many clients as was expected," the report stated.

- A coalition of two dozen sex club operators and HIV educators who work with AIDS Office staff to promote safer sex practices at the city's sex clubs.

"The AIDS Office plays a major role in guiding and coordinating HIV prevention activities throughout the city," the report stated. "The long-term goal is to reduce the number of new HIV infections in San Francisco to zero."

PWAs involved

The report also noted the involvement of people living with HIV/AIDS in the work of the AIDS Office. The AIDS Office staffs two key community planning bodies, the HIV Prevention Planning Council and the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council, both of which are mandated by the federal government.

"Both councils reflect the extraordinary diversity of San Francisco communities. Volunteer members represent HIV-infected and -affected community groups," the annual report stated. "This includes persons with HIV/AIDS, gay and bisexual men, people of color, women, youth, families, and children."

The research branch of the AIDS Office has been studying the natural history of HIV infection and has played a part in a national HIV vaccine preparedness effort by studying the feasibility of testing a future HIV vaccine with gay and bisexual men in San Francisco. Currently, 800 HIV-negative gay and bisexual men at high risk for HIV infection have been recruited to participate in the vaccine preparedness studies, the report stated.

San Francisco is one of eight U.S. cities chosen by the federal government to test the effectiveness of prevention strategies, including HIV vaccines when they become ready for testing, although Dr. Mitch Katz, director of the AIDS Office, acknowledged that progress on development of a vaccine has been slow.

The report also indicated that the research branch of the AIDS Office will test additional strate-

gies to prevent the transmission of HIV as well, such as rectal microbicides and behavioral interventions.

Reinvention

According to the report, approximately \$55 million in federal, state, and local funds was channeled by the AIDS Office to over 80 agencies that provide 224 public and community-based HIV health and prevention programs to city residents. Through needs assessments, surveys, and research, the office evaluates the services, making sure they're responsive to the emerging issues facing San Francisco.

This year, the AIDS Office made significant progress to improve access to HIV services, the report stated. Two examples are:

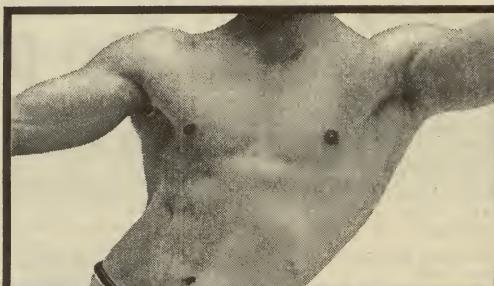
- The REGGIE system, which will provide computer link-ups between the 80 CARE-funded agencies and the AIDS Office. REGGIE was developed in direct response to clients' expressed frustration with repetitive and time-consuming registration processes required by each agency.

- Centralized Housing and Information Placement Service (CHIPS), a program that was developed to provide more equitable and coordinated access to AIDS housing. PWAs can access CHIPS to receive the first available opening for the type of housing they need, including permanent, hospice, supportive housing, or rental subsidies.

At least one member of the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council has expressed his dissatisfaction with both programs, particularly CHIPS. Tom Calvaneo has spoken at several council meetings about the issue, saying CHIPS has not even begun to approach its goal of going beyond just serving as a waiting list for AIDS housing.

Katz said in the report that it is "tremendously gratifying to see how energetically and creatively the AIDS Office has responded to this epidemic."

However, he added, "As good is our work is, it's not enough, and will never be enough, as long as there are people who are becoming HIV-infected or who are ill and need our care. The nature of the epidemic keeps changing, as does the face of healthcare, and we have to keep reinventing ourselves to maximize the impact of our programs."



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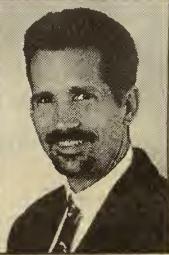
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BAY AREA REPORTER

Volume 27, Number 1
2 January 1997

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Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street,
San Francisco, CA 94103
415.861.5019 • 415.861.7230

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Pro patria

It probably shouldn't surprise anyone by now that President Clinton and failed Supreme Court nominee Robert Bork are on the same side of some issues, but it was nevertheless infuriating to see them both going into their *Reefer Madness* dance this week. Bork's 'n' Dork agree that marijuana is a threat to society and that stern measures are needed to keep it out of the reach of American youths, even if that means also keeping it away from those who need it.

Apparently child-proof containers that protect kids from all those other medicines just aren't strong enough to keep young fingers from the Evil Weed.

This latest move is one more reason to be bitterly disappointed in Clinton, who is obviously trying to divert attention from his sorry AIDS record (and sorrier "AIDS Strategy," a worthless grab bag of uninteresting platitudes) by making AIDS doctors into the enemy.

He and his ass-kissing staff of Donna "Do-Nothing" Borkala; Janet "Ignite Law-breakers, Not Joints" Reno; and Barry "I Lost Viet Nam, But By God I'm Not Gonna Lose The Drug War" McCaffrey are now threatening medical professionals who suggest marijuana to patients with AIDS, cancer, multiple sclerosis, glaucoma, and the like. Those doctors (who were cramming their heads full of healthcare information at the same time Clinton was offering a different kind of joint to Jennifer Flowers and Paula Jones in overpriced hotels at taxpayers' expense) do more to save American lives in one day than the draft-dodger in the White House has done since he took office, and he has some nerve to think he has any basis for interference.

Moreover, he is demonizing a drug he is known to have smoked for kicks, rather than for any relief from pain or the nausea of chemotherapy — but *hypocritical as it is, that's exactly why he's doing it*. He is cravenly willing to barter away medical therapy (for others) in return for political therapy (for himself). Perhaps he thinks this gets

tough approach will rehabilitate him in the eyes of the far right, but it won't — particularly if the fiscal conservatives ever find out the tax realities at stake.

McCaffrey and Shalala, when pressed, point out that a synthetic version of marijuana exists; what they don't like to tell people is that it costs about \$700 per month. Multiply \$8,400 per year by .0001 percent of our population (one in 100,000 Americans, in other words, which seems like a conservative estimate for the number of people with those diseases), and that equals approximately \$220,000,000. To put that figure into context, the total amount of Federal funding sought to provide drugs to people with AIDS in 1997 (and not just those drugs that battle nausea and strengthen appetite, as marijuana does, but the whole shebang — mostly protease inhibitors and other antivirals) is \$196 million. It seems absurd that

patients or insurance companies or the government should have to shell out an additional 112% of that amount to buy a synthetic version of something that grows free in a windowbox.

Nobody expects Clinton to announce a sudden increase of \$220 million in AIDS funding to provide synthetic relief from pain and nausea. By now we know it's his management style to inflict pain so he can "share" it at photo ops. It is literally enough to make one sick.

Invalidating the medical marijuana measures in California and Arizona, as Clinton has done, shows he is cut from the same rotten cloth as Serbia's Slobodan Milosovic. Anyone who cheers for the noisy people in the streets of Belgrade right now must hope that similar crowds will clog the streets in front of the White House and show Bill Clinton that although he may be president, he is not a doctor and he is not God. ▼

Editorial



Interpreting Chopin's sweet notes

by Shishir Thadani

Recently, I ran into a debate on the Internet on whether it was appropriate to discuss the sexual inclinations of great composers. Several users challenged the notion that Schubert or Chopin could be gay — ascribing it to "wifely thinking." And needless to say, there were many advocates of "don't ask, don't tell," insisting it was "irrelevant." But none of these advocates of "don't ask, don't tell" had any comments on why virtually every biography on the great composers has deemed it important enough to affirm the heterosexuality of the composer in question, even when the evidence was in doubt.

For years, every commentator on Brahms has interpreted his relationship with Clara Schumann as a "love relationship." The evidence is based on letters describing her as "my dearest." But hardly anyone is told that Brahms also referred to his best friend Joachim as "my dearest" in his early letters (the tone shifting after Joachim got married). In other correspondence, there is a suggestion from Clara Schumann that even after such a long acquaintance, she felt Brahms to be a complete "enigma" when it came to really knowing his private feelings. Could it be that the assumption that Brahms was heterosexual may in fact be "wifely thinking"?

Very few people know that Chopin, the great composer from early 19th century Poland, was gay. In spite of several surviving love letters to his best friend Titus describing him as "my love" and "my life," and numerous expressions of yearning for more physical contact and intimacy, most of Chopin's biographers have gone to extraordinary lengths to deny speculations that he may have been gay. However, a Polish biographer from the 1950s was honest enough to include excerpts from surviving correspondence that provide us with sufficient

clues about what Chopin's life was really like. What emerges is the story of a very talented but shy young man who was attracted to several of his male classmates, but was obliged to invent fanciful tales of attraction for unavailable young women in order to squelch rumors that he may be "odd" or a "misfit," i.e. gay. However, to his best friend Titus, he makes it abundantly clear that the rumors were deceptive and that he loved him more than anyone else.

That feudal Poland of the 1820s would require such charades is understandable, but what is more revealing is how many biographers of the 20th Century have felt obliged to give reality to this continuing illusion. Some biographers have suggested that such "effusive and sentimental" correspondence was "normal" between young best friends of 19th Century Poland. But Chopin's letters to Titus indicate how he constantly day-dreamed about him, how he craved for more from him, and how he struggled to accept that perhaps his feelings were not going to be reciprocated in the manner he hoped. (Titus eventually got married and had children, but counted Chopin amongst his close friends, right until Chopin died in 1849.)

Other biographers point to the long and intimate relationship between "George Sands" and Chopin as evidence that he was not gay. However, in order to do this, they have to engage in thoroughly sexist character assassination, branding "Sands" as an unreliable witness in history — labeling her as "a sexually aggressive and manipulative liar." In fact, nothing could be further from the truth. "Sands" was in fact a keen and prescient observer of reality. A woman of great courage, she walked out on a dissolute and abusive husband and decided to raise her children on her own. Since it was virtually impossible for women writers to find

publishers in those days, she used a male pen name for her books. That may have been a "lie" of necessity — but there are no reasons to doubt her private correspondence, where she indicates several times that her relationship with Chopin was "chaste" or "pure," i.e. platonic, and quite explicitly mentions how Chopin was physically "different" to her.

That Chopin and "Sands," a man and a woman, came together not because of sexual attraction, but as two oppressed people who empathized with each other, and who supported each other's creative talents, and may have shared lodgings out of sheer economic necessity, was quite incomprehensible to many biographers.

Some biographers have argued that Chopin was not gay because no gay person could possibly compose such "masculine" music as was to be found in his "Polonaises"! A laughable notion today, but something not as uncommon as it should be in the world of print. Homophobia and gender prejudices often become severe stumbling blocks for such historians and music critics in documenting the past without distortions and contrivances.

Contrary to the common myth that gay writers are obsessed with sexuality, it seems to me that, at least in the world of music biography, it is heterosexual writers who are the ones obsessed with sexuality — obsessed with promoting heterosexuality and denying and obscuring the actual life experiences of the great composers.

But acknowledging that composers like Chopin might have been gay also requires making the obvious inference: that the great sorrow that emerges from so much of his music may have had something to do with having to lead a very lonely and unfulfilled life. Something we don't want repeated, if at all possible. ▼

Guest Opinion



LETTERS

Dissident information

This letter is in regards to recent controversies surrounding ACT UP/SF. When I first became involved in the AIDS debate, I first went to ACT UP/Golden Gate but found that they did not allow any questions that were off the topic of their narrow vision. I started to go to their immune classes, and when I started asking too many questions, I was accused of "hijacking" the meeting.

I have a B.S. degree from Cornell, and I got through college by asking a lot of "dumb" questions. I was horrified when the "scientist" sheepishly admitted they didn't know the pathogenesis of HIV! Yet they are dosing people with the toxic rejects like AZT from the cancer "industry"! What other "viral" infection is treated with chemotherapy? Why are gay men willingly participating in their own genocide by taking this poison? Are we dealing with mass hysteria here?

I have read all the "hype" coming from the Vancouver *drug love fest* and am dubious about these protease inhibitors. These drugs have not been on the market long enough in a disease that, by their own logic, takes from 2-10 years to manifest itself, to be making any such claims, and surrogate markers have dubious value in other diseases as well.

Frustrated by the lack of openness at ACT UP/GG, I went to ACT UP/SF, and they have been very helpful. David Pasquarelli scouring the Internet and compiles them in a bi-weekly AIDS HEADLINES, and I would suggest people come to their very openly run meetings to educate themselves. I have also discovered that there are many people living healthy lives while being infected with HIV.

When the Fat Cat Pat incident occurred, members of ACT UP/SF had put out dissident literature on seats, and they were removed by members of the AIDS Establishment. It was at this point that the Kitty Litter was dumped. The AIDS Foundation takes drug company money, and this is a flagrant conflict of interest and they are just dupes for the drug companies. They have been subtly co-opted and they don't even know it.

I recently went to a forum on these protease inhibitors and had quietly put out dissident information on the seats before the meeting began. Someone then came up to me and said that I would have to leave. I said that I was not being disruptive, and that I was staying. He then went to get a policeman. So it is not the methods employed by ACT UP/SF that is the problem here; it is the information. I asked the researcher if they took into account who was taking AZT, and he called AZT a monkey wrench! A toxic poison a *monkey wrench*! And what monster viruses will these protease inhibitors breed?

If one looks more closely at the problems that the misuse of antibiotics has created, we are almost back where we have started from. When antibiotics are misused, we kill all the "good" bacteria that we have evolved with, making room for newer, more deadly antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Could this be the reason that so many gay men became infected with so many "exotic" diseases? Many of the newer, deadly bacteria would not even be in existence if not for the misuse of antibiotics. You now add AZT, a severe immunosuppressant, to this deadly mix, and I would say you have a prescription for AIDS, if not murder.

As for the recent arrest of R. Burk and M. Bellfontaine at the AIDS Foundation, that smells of entrapment. They are not stupid and would not pull an action at "enemy" headquarters, especially when they were expected. I demand that the charges against them be dropped.

They say evil walks a straight line, and I think the AIDS establishment is on the straight road to genocide with these toxic drugs. "Killing" the virus is not the only approach here. One must always approach nature from a back door or a side window. Right now we are going in the front door with both guns blazing and killing all the hostages!

Laura Stack
San Francisco

Duplicitous Sparks

[The following letter was sent to the Jewish Bulletin of Northern California:]

In the December 6, 1996, *Jewish Bulletin* Letters to the Editor, Adam Sparks praises the Orthodox Jews as the proud keepers of the flame because they eschew homosexuality, and he condemns Reform Jews because they condone homosexuality.

Mr. Sparks was a candidate in the November 1996 election for the office of member of the San Francisco Board of Education. I am enclosing an advertisement he placed in the October 31, 1996 *Bay Area Reporter* in which he says, "We're Here. We're Queer." He describes himself as "A gay friendly parent."

Either Mr. Sparks is a duplicitous politician, or he does not know that gay people are homosexual.

Paul Rosenberg
San Francisco

Would-be lesbian

Language can be a sword to harm, or a tool to build. So let me thank Eleanor Ruckman for introducing the phrase "lesbian men" into the Queen's English, as of December 1996 (B.A.R.). Regardless of her intent, I would feel honored, as a feminist queer male, if any lesbian chose to call me a "lesbian man."

Lea DeLaria, at an outdoor performance, once invited her fans to ask questions. I asked her to comment on an incident of censorship. She scolded me: "You're talking politics when we're supposed to be talking about sex! That's stereotypical lesbian behavior. I can't believe a gay man is doing this to me." I took her verbal chastisement as a compliment. (Okay, I would have preferred a spanking, but...)

Getting down to the topic she prescribed, I have loved individuals of at least three genders. My psychology is gynandrous (androgynous). And I assure my sisters that "lesbian men" may exist, at least as wannabes. But I wouldn't dare to claim such high status for myself.

We "lavenders" (queer folk) can try to honor diversity by hair-splitting our communities into ever-smaller segments and factions, each suspicious of the others, each considering itself the best. And/or we can try to honor it by weaving a loose web of many bright colors, many wondrous differences. Diversity may exclude or include.

For example, we could engage in gentle, non-pushy "recruiting" - by recognizing that some "straights" may also have bisexual (or queer-friendly) potentials, and by clearly welcoming those who wish to explore or expand their possibilities.

Which approach, in *your* opinion, best enhances liberty and equality, dignity and community, independence and interdependence?

Tortuga Bi Liberty
Berkeley, CA

Mailstrom

Visibility report

How soon you forget! Your response to Eleanor Ruckman's letter regarding use of the terms "lesbian" or "gay" were [sic] way off the mark. Let me remind you that it was only a dozen short years ago that some of us fought hard for the inclusion of the word "Lesbian" in the titles of the "Gay" Democratic clubs. We won by a landslide. Since then, other communities under the umbrella that was once called the "Gay Community" have joined in: Bi-sexuals, Transgenders, Transsexuals, etc. So visibility is just P.C. bullshit, huh? It seems it's ONLY you gay white males who keep insisting this is the case.

Tish A. Pearlman
Ex-Co-Chair, Lesbian Caucus
Harvey Milk Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender
Democratic Club

[The editor, who fails the white male test on a couple of levels, responds: Ruckman's complaint was about a headline identifying Sheila Kuehl as the "first woman or gay" speaker pro tem. Obviously "first woman or lesbian" has a completely different meaning, and "first woman or gay or lesbian" is confusing and overly long. Since every word added to a headline subtracts from the space available for the story itself, it's somewhat different from the name that goes onto the letterhead of the HMLGB-STDC (or, as most people still call it, the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club; you may not like it, but people will only go so far to accommodate P.C. bullshit). Finally, we think any drive to make English more gender-specific is harmful. After working 20 years to replace sexist words like "policeman" and "meter maid" with "police officer" and "traffic warden," it makes very little sense to turn around now and insist upon separate words for male and female gays. You may consider the fight worth waging, but most people have much more important things to do.]

Beyond feel-good medicine

I was sadly moved by Dr. Donald Abrams' need to defend himself (Mailstrom, Nov. 28). I've known him as a friend and a doctor for some 15 years or more. He faithfully considers his patients as individuals and avoids the pitfalls of raising negligible hopes, steering them instead toward meaningful treatment when possible. His pragmatism and professional humility have guided me through the worst of the last few years, when his medical peers have seemed as arrogantly invasive as he is cautiously helpful. Mr. Pasquarelli should find another form of self-promotion. By daring to see beyond conventional feel-good medicine, Abrams charted a course for me through the surgical halls of Cedars-Sinai that saved my life when the rest of the nation's "best" doctors were willing to let me languish and die on AZT therapy. He has an open mind and the courage for truth, qualities the gay community would do well to appreciate while he is working.

Ned Baughman
Los Angeles, CA

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Don't Interfer

Jay Anthony attacks Project Inform's efforts to reach out to people of color communities because we failed to support the use of millions of federal dollars on yet another study of low-dose oral interferon (*Mailstrom*, December 19). At least this part of his letter is true. After 14 out of 15 other studies conducted around the world, some by respected African researchers in African populations, failed to show any benefit, it just didn't seem like a good use of federal funds. Worse, it seemed to encourage people to place their hopes in a therapy which had little chance of helping them. No other drug has been the subject of so many additional studies, despite the failure of prior studies to show benefit. When low-dose oral interferon was first promoted, many people, including Project Inform, enthusiastically followed the story. In fact, we helped people get access to the product within weeks of the first reports out of Africa claiming benefits. Sadly, no significant benefits were seen here when people began using the product. For years afterward, we continued to follow the studies which took place around the world, as one after another failed to show benefit. The continued testing of low-dose oral interferon, after seeing it fail in 14 previous studies, has become a political, not scientific or medical, matter.

As for the other charges, Mr. Anthony simply misunderstands the science. At the doses used in the treatment of HIV, both the older nucleoside analog drugs and the newer protease inhibitors have a highly selective effect. For example, the protease inhibitors are roughly 1,000-fold more active against the HIV protease than against other bodily protease enzymes, making it rather easy to achieve a safe and effective dose. If protease inhibitors were stopping production of all bodily proteases, or if nucleoside analog drugs were suppressing all cellular reproduction, the people using them would be dead in a matter of days. But no such thing is happening. Both classes of drug, used in a variety of combinations, have been proven to contribute to increased survival and decreased progression to AIDS in large, well-controlled clinical trials accepted world-wide.

Hasn't Mr. Anthony noticed the drop in the number of obituaries each week, or heard how the death rate from AIDS has dropped dramatically at hospitals all over town (and all around the country)? This comes at a time when people are using more, rather than less, of these drugs. Like any drugs, they can produce side effects. Project Inform has published extensive information on the side effects and potentially harmful drug interactions which can occur. Despite this, the net effect is positive, especially since the advent of the better combinations made possible by the protease inhibitors. What we won't do, however, is publish misinformation, such as the notion that the drugs are inhibiting all bodily proteases or all cell production.

These drugs are no cure and they come at a high price in terms of cost and the difficulty of using them, but they still provide the largest gain we've yet seen from any therapies for AIDS. We can only hope that the benefits will be sustained over the long haul.

I can't imagine a greater disservice to people of color communities than the promotion of ineffective therapies, while frightening people away from treatments which have been proven to help.

Martin Delaney and the Staff of Project Inform
San Francisco

Neil's last call

Thank you! For 14 years I've had the pleasure of bartending at the Castro Station. The outpouring of the love I felt from all of you at my retirement "gathering" on December 19th literally and truly was overwhelming and at times took my breath away. Imagine! Me, out of something to say! Yet, although I do remember a few words at the mic and all of your words of kindness, I would like to use this noble forum to add just a few more.

Over all these past years of my association with the Castro Station family: management, staff and patron, tourist and local, I've come to understand just exactly what family is and what family values are all about. It's been an absolute pleasure to have crossed lives with so very many wonderful people. I have been blessed, and that blessing could never be so evident as it was on my retirement evening. Along with all your personal kindnesses and thoughts, I understand that "Neil's Last Call" banner which you all signed raised something over \$125 for the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund. You've always been right there, haven't you? Believe me, you will always be in my heart. There are so many individual thank yous I would like to extend here, but that just wouldn't work. So please suffice it to say that you know who you are and so do I, and I will always remember. From myself to all of you, thank you. Take care of yourselves and take care of one another. Blessings to you in the new year. And, as always, thank you for shopping the world-famous Castro Station.

Neil L. Genson
Alameda, CA

The real Count

While reading the December 19, 1996 edition of the *International Herald-Tribune* at the Berkeley Public Library, I came across this interesting comment from a review on page 20 of the acclaimed film *The English Patient*:

"The real [Count Laslo] Almásy was a far cry from the character portrayed by Ralph Fiennes in the film... a dashing explorer who falls in love with another man's wife... and who helps the Nazis only as a way to be united with his love."

"In real life he was an intrepid explorer, but he was also a homosexual who wrote passionate letters to a young German officer he tried to help avoid going to the Russian front."

Armand Boulay
Berkeley, CA

Gold Club

I believe Goldie Hawn's dance scene with Lea DeLaria in *The First Wives' Club* is an instant classic which will be cherished and remembered by many for a very long time. The whole movie is infectiously funny and engaging AND also inclusive of gay and lesbian characters in a truly genuine way. I hope Goldie Hawn, Diane Keaton and Bette Midler win awards for their roles, and I think this is the best work Goldie Hawn has ever done. To my mind, *The First Wives' Club* movie really furthers positive lesbian/gay characters on film and deserves our special support.

Robert Carron
San Francisco

Big presents in small town

[The following letter was sent to columnist Sweet Lips:]

It was good seeing you here in Puerto Vallarta again. I hope that you enjoyed your vacation here as much as we appreciated your presence in this small town. As you have done in the past you brought with you a gift that we are sharing with all of the people of our community. Your donation of a couple of bags of condoms helps us continue working to educate the local people in safe sex. We have a problem here, as not only do the people think that it is unmanly to use a condom, and against their religion; but once they do decide to try it they find that condoms are extremely expensive here in Mexico and they do not have the funds for subsistence, let alone for something that they have not considered using in the past. Thus, your gift gives them a chance to have the life-protecting device with them so that they can practice safe sex.

Should you or your friends be able to help us with some more donations of condoms we would be happy to distribute them to the local men and women. They can be sent or, if someone is coming down here, brought to the Club. Thank you for your kind and generous gift.

I hope that we get to see you again, soon!

Howard R. Loy
Club Paco Paco
Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

Leather Brunch report

I'm pleased to report to the community that \$2,100 was raised for AIDS Benefits Counselors at the Holiday Leather Brunch on December 8th. Special thanks go out to the management and staff at Harvey's as well as to all the donors and volunteers who helped pull off such a successful event.

Community Service Awards were presented to Rick Lubrano and Don Ho Tse for their consistent donations of time and service for people with HIV/AIDS throughout 1996.

I encourage all HIV+ residents of San Francisco to use the free benefits counseling services of ABC and the free employment services (work referrals, employment counseling, computer skills training) of Positive Resource. The recent merger of these two organizations is an example of people working together in response to the changing needs of PWAs and HIV. You can reach ABC at (415) 558-9845.

Gary Virginia
Mr. San Francisco Leather '96

Angels in America

To the caretakers of those living with AIDS who have stood fast during our long epidemic, to those who continue to stand fast as we wait to know if the new changes are ongoing, my heart needs to say, oh angels, how you shine!

Charles Swarengin
San Francisco

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes signed, mailed, and preferably typewritten (or at least legible) letters to the editor at 395 Ninth Street, SF CA 94103. Please be brief and to the point, and include your telephone number and address for our verification purposes.

POLITICS

Dueling duo: DiFi and Dan

by Wayne Friday

The really big prize in the 1998 off-year election is clearly the governorship of California. To be the elected leader of the nation's wealthiest, most populous and politically powerful state is probably second only to the presidency itself, a fact not lost on those already pondering a run to replace **Pete Wilson**. Two of the would-be governors, **Dan Lungren** (the state's Republican attorney general) and **Gray Davis** (the Democratic lieutenant governor), have already announced, and both are reportedly well into the campaign finance-raising game. Davis reportedly has already raised \$3 million, while Lungren is thought to have \$2 million set aside.

Unless a surprise candidate emerges from the more moderate wing of the state GOP, Lungren appears to have pretty much a lock on his party's nomination. Wilson is prohibited from running again, unless, as some expect, a federal judge overturns the term-limits law.

While there are no doubt a few other gubernatorial hopefuls in both parties, the real attention is focused on former San Francisco Mayor **Dianne Feinstein**, now the state's senior member of the U.S. Senate, and recently retired White House Chief of Staff **Leon Panetta**, a former Monterey-area congressman. (State Controller **Kathleen Connell**, a Los Angeles-based businesswoman serving her first term in Sacramento, has also made it known she is interested in replacing Wilson, but political observers in the state capital believe that in the end she will decide on a re-election bid, rather than face either Feinstein or Panetta.)

According to insider sources, Mr. Panetta has told a number of close political allies and friends that he will "very likely" run against Gray Davis for the party's gubernatorial nomination, but is "inclined" not to run if Dianne Feinstein gets into the race. A recent *LA Times* survey had Feinstein as the strongest Democratic candidate, the only one who could defeat Lungren in the November 1998 election.

Both Panetta and Feinstein enjoy a good working relationship with President **Bill Clinton**, and while Clinton would stay out of any contest between the two, the president has allegedly told California party leaders that he would use his immense popularity here to campaign for either of them after the primary. Clinton recently won the state by a landslide over Republican **Bob Dole**, and his coattails are credited for ousting two incumbent GOP members as well. His victory also helped return control of the state Assembly to the Democrats.

Why would a powerful senator from a state like California want to leave the U.S. Senate to become governor? Well, Pete Wilson, the present governor, did just that, and in fact, California is actually one of the few states in America in which being governor is often viewed as being superior to being a U.S. senator.

Feinstein, with the most name recognition of any of the candidates, has run statewide races



Feinstein and Friday (right) cozy up to the camera.

three times before, twice winning senate races and barely losing the governor's race to Wilson in 1990. This columnist spoke briefly with Senator Feinstein last week, and when I brought up the issue of the governorship, she wasn't — surprise — particularly interested in talking about it. She smiled non-committally, gave me a wink, and promised that "I'll let you know, Wayne." It's still iffy, but I do believe that sometime this year, Senator Dianne Feinstein will officially become the California Democratic Party's gubernatorial candidate.

Politics and people

Hey, haven't we had enough of this guy already? Bob Dole (yes, that Bob "Where's the outrage?" Dole), with appearances under his belt on *Late Show With David Letterman* and *Saturday Night Live*, now has another TV gig lined up. The losing presidential nominee guests Jan. 9 on the NBC **Brooke Shields** comedy *Suddenly Susan*. In the episode, Dole provides a bit of coaching on the two-party political system to the tasty Luis (**Nestor Carbonell**), who is studying for his exam to become a U.S. citizen. Whatever became of that Bal Harbour retirement condo, Bob?

And while the former candidate is relegated to doing ads and boob-tube cameos, wife Elizabeth "Don't-Call-Me-Liddy" Dole's political career might still be ahead of her. Flashing her famous frozen smile, Mrs. Dole told reporters in D.C. last week that "if at some point it might be feasible, that there was an opportunity to run at whatever level, it is very much an option I might well consider." As *Time's* political writer put it, "This is Washington for 'Don't count me out in 2000.'" (Hang on to those old Dole buttons, Chris.)

Yes, I do tread heavily on our illustrious Board of Supes from time to time — and they deserve it — but five who pretty consistently do a good job are **Susan Leal**, **Tom Ammiano**, **Leslie Katz**, **Sue Bierman** and **Barbara Kaufman**.

Overheard at a City Hall conversation about the monolithic Dept. of Social Services, now known as the Human Services Department: "The mayor can shift those guys around over there all he wants, but the place is a mess — and it's too big for even him to get a handle on." Also, even

his critics sympathize with **Willie Brown** over the hopeless homeless problem, but hey, wasn't he the guy who had the "answer" for this dilemma during his campaign?

Well, they didn't "poll" me, but for the fourth year in a row, a USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll has President Clinton as the most admired man in America.

Several of state Senator **Tom Hayden's** San Francisco friends will be with him on the steps of the Los Angeles City Hall January 11 when he announces his candidacy for mayor of that city.

As 1997 dawndeth, many columnists will likely bore you with highlights from their past columns and lists of important events during 1996. Hell, why not some political predictions instead! Here goes!

San Diego Republican Mayor **Susan Golding** will announce for **Barbara Boxer's** U.S.

Senate seat and give our Babs the fight of her political life. ... A federal judge in Oakland will overturn term limits this year and cause all kinds of political havoc. ... A la Willie Brown, Assemblywoman **Carole Migden**, after her Assembly career is over, will come back and be elected mayor of San Francisco. ... **Angela Alioto** will run for city attorney. ... A prominent gay attorney will emerge as a strong opponent of veteran Public Defender **Jeff Brown**. ... Senator Dianne Feinstein will run again for governor. ... **Quentin Kopp** will retire from politics at the end of his current term. ... **Frank Jordan** and former Assemblywoman **Jackie Speier** will duke it out for the Demo nod to succeed Kopp when he retires. ... There will be at least two gay/lesbian candidates for judge locally the next time around. ... **Rudy Giuliani** and **Richard Riordan**, the Republican mayors of the country's two largest and most heavily Democratic cities (LA and NYC), will win re-election handily. ... Retired state Senator **Milton Marks** will become a resident professor at a Bay Area college. ... **Tom Hsieh** will return to politics. ... Yet another resignation at the "musical chairs" SF Police Commission. ... A well-known local politico will endure a messy — and very public — divorce. ... A U.S. senator finally comes out of the closet.

Okay, these are the easy ones, you say? I'll be back with some more in a few weeks. Meanwhile, Happy New Year to you all. ▼

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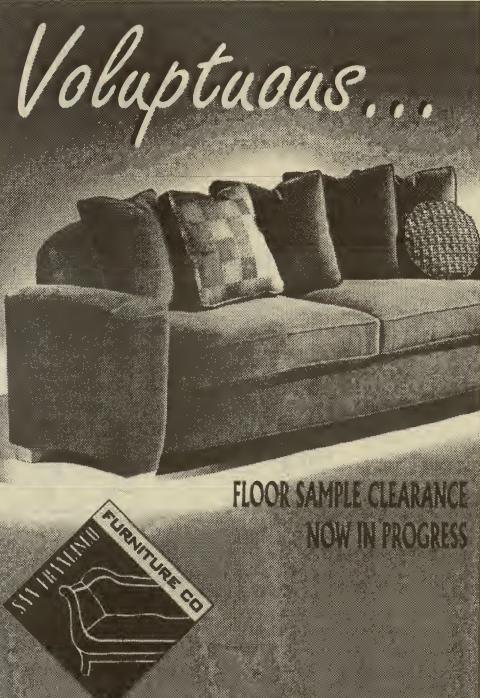
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From Sir Ma'am with love

by Beth Elliott

Oh I Went Far East for To See Himals, Sing Nepali Wali Doodle All the Day Dept.: Even after shaking off the fatigue from a 33-hour travel day during which I experienced not one but two Monday mornings (one in Bangkok, the other at LAX), I'm still puzzled at having been fairly regularly addressed as "Sir Ma'am" by Nepali hotel and restaurant staff during my recent three-week college study tour. As front-desk people unfailingly used "Ma'am," I suspect what I was encountering was a generic "Sir" followed up with the gender-specific "Ma'am" by locals still getting the hang of interacting with travelers in English. Though Amazonian in stature and presence by local standards, to cope with the weather (warm middays, down to freezing at night), I'd mostly worn the female signifier of long skirts (over sweatpants).

The mode of address was no problem; I know I could have done with more prep time before departure for learning more Nepali than what I used as prime tourist sites to tell tchotchke hawkers, "I don't need that;" and Western-wise children, "You shouldn't beg." Fortunately, I paid enough attention to the language of local custom and propriety to be a decent guest (I was told I had acclimated well and would be welcome on another such study tour). Propriety was incredibly important: that our group had access to the people, places and

events we did was due in no small part to years of Asian-style relationship-building and favor-sharing by our tour organizer, and it was incumbent upon us to honor the people who made the wondrous experiences of our trip possible by showing respect for their culture.

More than that, I noted there are a few small things I can do here at home that could be of great use to two of the Nepalis who shared their expertise with us. So it may turn out that the most transformative aspect of my journey was the networking, through which small efforts of mine in the West might get leveraged by Asians into some pretty decent positive effects in the East. That's the most mind-boggling part of the experience so far.

To caca and back

Of course, I can't say enough about the pleasures of watching how actually experiencing the intricate contradictions of a place highly idealized and romanticized by Westerners blew whatever pre-conceived notions of Nepal and Kathmandu with which we arrived all to caca. You name it, we had it thrown back in our faces: development versus cultural preservation, Western materialism versus Eastern spirituality, Kathmandu Valley as Tibetan Buddhist wonderland (of intense relevance to lesbian exploration of Buddhism), ecotourism as resource redistribution, etc. The realities, and our dharma as (relatively affluent) Western tourists,

back to Kathmandu by the time the rest of us boarded our bus to the airport for our return flight. On the one hand, I shudder to think of the predicaments into which this *naïf* may have blundered her way — but for the local travel agent, her support network

split for the States (even the Kathmandu campus no

longer has any responsibility to her). On the other hand, her failure to act like a responsible adult (as was called for continually), or to have any coherent interactions with the rest of us, drove us all past caring about her or the problems she created for

herself by relying on her warm, fuzzy, soft-focus leftist view of the world and her quasi-holistic psychobabble.

Relevant perceptions

So are my adventures, and my perceptions of them, relevant to lesbian readers to the point that I can share stories of my journey without turning this into a travel column? Yes, I do believe they are — if telescoped for brevity's sake. At the very least, I was faced with questions that arose from my being a Western lesbian/feminist (and esotericist) winnowing out enriching experiences (hanging out at power spots, conversing with Nepali intellectuals and activists, ecotouring and trekking) from a caste-oriented culture in which the status of women really, really sucks and in which my presence had immense power for good and/or ill.

Then there was repeatedly

Beth hangs out at power spots, converses with Nepali activists, ecotours and meditates.

were consistently more complex than — and often counterintuitive to — any liberal/progressive expectations.

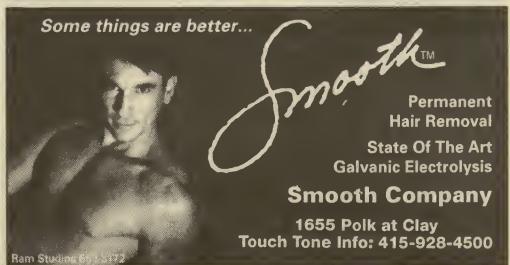
As a matter of fact, the most politically correct and queer theory-oriented member of our group — the one most desperate to be out of America and blow off her support group of fellow Americans, who arrived primed to fall in love with Nepal and want to stay on — was the one who ended up coping the least, needing a watchful eye kept on her for her own good, and getting in over her head in the local culture (and with the local men). The one downside of the trip for me was that, after friends of mine had to bow out, I got stuck with The Flake From Hell as an assigned roommate.

I don't even know how her trip ended; to fulfill a promise to a Nepali friend in the States, she made a poorly planned trip to an outlying town and hadn't made it

waking up at four in the morning to find myself meditating upon and generally pondering the whole question of civilization from an East/West synthesis point of view — and sensing I was getting instruction not only from our seminars and field trips but from these wee-hours ponderings as well. And I did have one meditation experience that knocked my socks off. My life is decidedly different — and richer — for having made this journey.

And the stories I have to tell — like trying to find the immense yoni shrine that started one of our leaders on an early morning ramble near Durbar Square. I searched in vain, but he stumbled across it once more on our last full day in Nepal. Turns out it was an old Ganesh (the elephant god of beginnings) with its nose knocked off that had appeared very different to him in the early morning mist. ▼

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COMMENTARY

In 1997: At last, a virtual war on AIDS

by Terry Beswick

January 1, 1997. President Bill Clinton announced today that in his first official act of the new year, he has appointed a personal computer, an IBM clone named "Halina," to the position of White House Virtual AIDS Czarina. The president acknowledged that appointing the first nonhuman to an official White House position was a risky experiment in governance. But he argued that "the time has come" to automate policy-making. "I have total confidence in Halina's abilities," said the president. "With her state-of-the-art cyber-polling and analytical programs, she is uniquely qualified to develop AIDS policies based on the most current political trends."

Vice President Gore then wheeled out the new Virtual Czarina Halina, introducing her as the "bridge to public health policy of the 21st century." Gore said that the Virtual Czarina will be responsible for implementation of the President's new **National AIDS Strategy Plan**. The Plan, released last December, enunciates six goals, including "find a cure," "reduce the new infection rate to zero," and "ensure adequate healthcare and services."

January 2, 1997. AIDS activists rallied at the gates of the White House today to protest the appointment of desktop computer Halina as the new Virtual AIDS Czarina. Activists have long contended that the president never has vested any real authority in the post, and now is actually eliminating the position altogether. "Of all the offices of the White House, only the Office of the Virtual AIDS Czarina still has no Web site online. Halina doesn't even have an e-mail address!" exclaimed one man. The protesters demanded that the president fire Halina, appoint a gay man with HIV as AIDS Czar, and elevate the position to Cabinet-level.

February 10, 1997. Responding to criticism that his National AIDS Strategy Plan was long on goals and short on specific action, President Clinton announced today that he is directing Virtual AIDS Czarina Halina to initiate a new program. "Czarina Halina will im-

mediately commence sending out millions of e-mail messages over the **World Wide Web** repeating over and over again, 'Find a cure and a vaccine for AIDS. Find a cure and a vaccine for AIDS.' This brilliant new program will serve as a constant reminder to people all over the world that I am seriously committed to finding a cure and a vaccine for AIDS," said the president.

February 11, 1997. Calling President Clinton "a **clueless newbie**," AIDS activists from around the country called an online press conference announcing the formation of a splinter group, **Virtual ACT UP**. The new group, open to Internet users around the world, called as its first cyber-action an e-mail zap of the **White House homepage**. "We especially welcome hackers who can help us shut down the White House intranet until the President issues a real AIDS plan tied to a real AIDS budget," said the activists in a statement.

March 22, 1997. Secret transcripts of a February 12, 1997 meeting between President Bill Clinton, **Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala** and **National Institutes of Health Director Harold Varmus** were leaked over the Internet today by the AIDS activist group Virtual ACT UP. On the transcripts, which appear to have originated from the White House, Secretary Shalala is quoted referring to the president's National AIDS Strategy Plan as "fish wrap," while Dr. Varmus is quoted saying, "These plans are **DOA at the NIH**. Anyway, it's not my job to cure anything - we do basic research!" President Clinton states, "Halina's [expletive] polls say we better [expletive] make it at least *look* like something is [expletive] happening!" The White House had no immediate comment on the authenticity of the transcripts.

April 1, 1997. White House Virtual AIDS Czarina Halina issued a statement over the Internet today announcing a bold new series of initiatives to fight AIDS. Czarina Halina announced federal fund-

ing for **needle exchange** programs; research on methods to prevent HIV transmission during **anal sex**; massive funding for a new consortium of pharmaceutical, university, and government laboratories directed to cooperate in the search for a cure and a vaccine for HIV; and millions of free **condoms** for junior high and high school students. The Czarina also fired HHS Secretary Donna Shalala, saying, "Teflon Donna. Nothing had her chance. She blew it on **healthcare**, she blew it on **welfare**, and she blew it on **AIDS**. Three strikes and you're out."

April 2, 1997. The White House issued a retraction today of the statement purportedly released by Virtual AIDS Czarina Halina yesterday. Calling the statement a "hoax by computer hackers," a White House spokesperson said the president would not comment on the incident. □



A former staffer of the White House and HHS AIDS offices, Beswick now cruises the Web. Visit links to bolded words on: <http://members.aol.com/Wired2BGay/vqz.html>.

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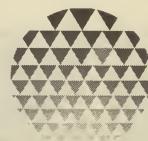
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Sheep tricks

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

Mention the words "sex" and "sheep" in the same breath, and we're liable to think about what's commonly called "bestiality": shepherds humping their flock by moonlight, or the scene from Woody Allen's *Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Sex ...* where the psychiatrist becomes bizarrely infatuated with a cuddly ewe. But sheep also have sex lives of their own. And as it turns out, male sheep (rams) come in two kinds, gay and straight, like their human counterparts.

Among wild Bighorn sheep, gay sex is rampant. In fact, Bighorn rams spend most of their lives in all-male troops, so their opportunities to have sex with females, even if they so desire, are few and far between. When a male mounts another male, the mounting male is usually "dominant," that is, higher in the troop hierarchy.

The world's expert on the sexual orientation of sheep is Anne Perkins, an animal behaviorist at Carroll College, a Catholic liberal-arts college in Helena, Montana. Perkins doesn't bring her sheep onto the campus, of course. Rather, with the support of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, she studies them at the Sheep Experiment Station in Dubois, Idaho, in the foothills of the Rockies.

Perkins studies domesticated sheep. The way she checks their

sexual orientation is as follows. First, she finds a couple of male sheep that are especially willing to be mounted by other males. Bottoms, we might call them. She also selects two female sheep who are in heat. All four sheep are tethered around a stall, heads inward. Now she brings along a whole lot of rams, one by one. The rams check out the array of four tempting behinds, two male, two female. Many of the rams go straight for the females, but a sizable minority – between four and eight percent – will only mount the males. And when I say "mount," I mean real anal penetration with ejaculation, not the "pretend sex" that so often passes for homosexuality in the animal world.

The "top/bottom" distinction isn't a hard-and-fast one. Sometimes, the rams form bonded pairs, who only have sex with each other. In this case, the two members of the pair may alternate the "top" and "bottom" roles. But the homosexual/heterosexual distinction does seem quite sharp: the gay rams are quite uninterested in the females.

Perkins and her colleagues have gone on to study the brains of her sheep. At a scientific meeting last year, Perkins reported on two chemical differences between the brains of the gay and the straight rams.

One difference was in the hypothalamus. This region of the brain is known to be involved in the production of sexual behavior. In the human hypothalamus there are structural differences between men and women, as well as between straight and gay men (that was my research). Perkins found that there are differences between gay and straight rams in the level of an enzyme (named aromatase) that is involved in the metabolism of sex hormones.

The other difference was in the amygdala, a nearby region of the brain which may be involved in the recognition of sexually attractive partners. Here, Perkins found differences in the level of the receptors for sex hormones – that is, the molecular targets to which sex hormones bind after they enter brain cells. The level of these receptors in the gay rams was significantly lower in the gay rams than in the straight rams, and was about the same as in the ewes.

Perkins doesn't know how these differences come about, nor how they might be involved in creating differences in sexual orientation. She hopes to follow up these findings in two ways.

First, she hopes to identify structural differences between the brains of the gay and straight rams, perhaps comparable to what I reported in humans. And second, she is doing breeding experiments to see whether there is a genetic basis for sexual orientation in sheep.

Of course, the fact that her gay rams refuse to have sex with females makes the breeding experiments a little difficult. But thanks to artificial insemination, even the most determined non-performer can become a proud father. It's good to know, in fact, that the USDA is helping queer sheep become parents. ▼

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well-known for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of *Queer Science* (MIT Press, 1996) and the co-author (with Elisabeth Nonas) of *City of Friends*. He is also the co-founder of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. He can be reached care of this publication or at SLeVay@aol.com.

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Gay UC Davis researcher receives APA award

by Cynthia Laird

For the first time, the American Psychological Association (APA) has bestowed one of its highest honors on an openly gay researcher for his work against homophobia and heterosexism, the organization announced December 12.

The APA awarded its 1996 Early Career Award for Distinguished Contribution to Psychology in the Public Interest to Dr. Gregory M. Herek, a research psychologist at the University of California, Davis. Herek is being honored "for his impressive body of research, writing, and professional service in the area of sexual minorities and for his impact on national debates on that subject," according to an article in the December issue of *Monitor*, the APA's official newspaper.

The award is one of several given annually by the APA to recognize outstanding contributions in the areas of public policy, science, professional practice, and education. Of the 35 award recipients since its inception in 1978, Herek is the first openly gay man to be honored.

Past recipients include the late Dr. Evelyn Hooker, whose groundbreaking research in the 1950s disproved the widespread belief that homosexuality is inherently linked to mental illness.

"Herek's work has furthered



Dr. Gregory M. Herek.

our understanding of prejudice and discrimination related to sexual orientation in a variety of social and professional settings," the APA news article stated. "In U.S. military policy, for example, Herek integrated a large body of behavioral and social research - including his own empirical studies - to construct a strong scientific argument against the military's ban on service by gay men and women.

"Herek's work has also addressed violence and hate crimes and contributed to court challenges to anti-gay legislation and sodomy laws. His works on AIDS-related stigma are required reading... of most courses on lesbian and gay studies. His application of psychological research seeks to assure that public policy decisions are informed by sound psychological science," stated the article.

The UC Davis researcher received his doctorate in 1983. He has

published dozens of academic papers on the topics of homophobia, heterosexism, anti-gay violence, and AIDS stigma. His books include *Hate Crimes: Confronting Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men* (1992) and *Out in Force: Sexual Orientation and the Military* (1996).

Currently, Herek is conducting research on the mental health consequences of anti-gay and anti-lesbian violence, national attitudes concerning AIDS and people with AIDS, and the impact of AIDS on gay and bisexual men.

In addition to contributing to friend-of-the-court briefs filed by the APA in federal and state courts involving gay rights, Herek has twice testified before the U.S. Congress on behalf of the APA and other professional groups. In 1993 he went before the House Armed Services Committee's hearings on gays in the U.S. military, and in 1996 Herek testified before the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee during hearings on anti-gay violence.

Herek has also served as a consultant and expert witness for numerous legal cases involving the civil rights of lesbians and gay men, including many recent cases challenging the military's personnel policy.

Herek will receive the award and an honorarium at the APA's 1997 national convention in Chicago, where he will also present an invited address. ▼

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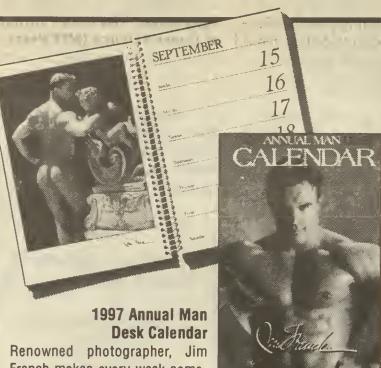
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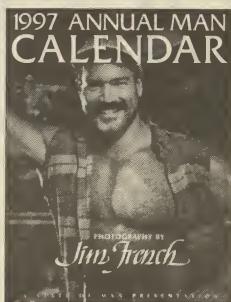
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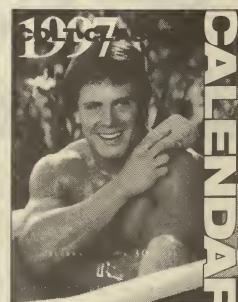
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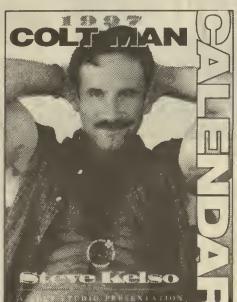
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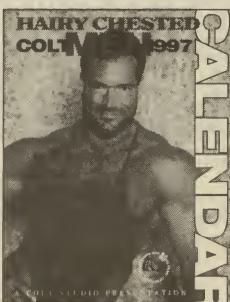
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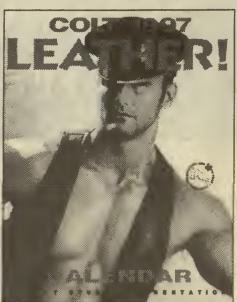
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Newsletter brings together gay men with, without disabilities

by Cynthia Laird

A San Francisco-based international newsletter for gay and bisexual men with and without disabilities enters its fourth consecutive year of publication this month with a new issue full of subscribers' personal contact ads.

Able-Together traces its origins

to the 1970s, when a polio-disabled young gay man started it in search of a partner. The newsletter, which has subscribers in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and elsewhere, was relaunched in October 1994 in a magazine format that combines personal contact ads with an expanded editorial section emphasizing positive feeling in men's relationships.

Co-editors Mike Maurillo, who is spinal cord injured, and Peter Hegedus, who is nondisabled, look at the nondisabled

world's capacity to be sensitized to the concerns of disabled people, and at what Maurillo calls the "bulls-eye focus of A-T: bridging the gaps" between the disabled and nondisabled. The co-editors try to notice how feelings about their own and others' disabilities affect feelings and behaviors when they are around people.

"If you insult my disability you are insulting me," Maurillo wrote in a recent editorial. "We have the two edges to this sword: that I want it to be acknowledged but don't want to be seen as it, exclu-

and outreach costs. Its international outreach program includes sending informational materials and flyers to independent living centers, to disabled students' programs, and to gay/lesbian student associations at colleges in the United States and Canada.

It has already attracted the attention of *New Mobility* magazine, and was featured in newsletters of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights and the Boston Information Center for Individuals with Disabilities.

Able-Together costs \$30 for a

Able-Together traces its origins to the 1970s, when a polio-disabled young gay man started it in search of a partner. Co-editors are Mike Maurillo, who is spinal cord injured, and Peter Hegedus, who is non-disabled.

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sively of all my other attributes."

Maurillo and Hegedus said, "We think balancing the sword's two edges can be tricky, and can result in things not being communicated and the men concerned feeling not quite as close as they might have liked or hoped.

"A-T's bold mission is to look into how we may begin to dismantle the barriers - both in our responses and in our partner's - to better communicate and contact," they stated.

Able-Together, which is published quarterly, in January, April, July, and October, applies all subscription sales and donated revenue to production, advertising,

year's subscription, including a personal contact ad listing. (The ad can be box number-coded for privacy, the editors added.) Additionally, subscribers are encouraged to submit letters, opinions, and articles for publication. The subscription rate is reduced to \$15 for persons with low incomes. Single issues sell for \$5 and are available at some gay/progressive bookstores. ▼

For a sample issue, send \$5 to *Able-Together*, P.O. Box 460053, San Francisco, CA 94146, or call (415) 522-9091 to receive an informational flyer.

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One gay man's struggle with SSI cuts

by Dennis Conkin

A San Francisco gay man who receives federal Supplemental Security Income is now living in fear that new federal disability system regulations may soon drive him to homelessness.

Michael Rico Muldowney, 38, is just one of an estimated 6,000 residents in San Francisco and Alameda counties who initially received the federal disability assistance because of a clinically diagnosed substance abuse problem. Muldowney and the others have been forced to re-apply after legislative changes in SSI regulations eliminated substance abuse as an eligible disability.

Although he may successfully appeal his termination of benefits, Muldowney may lose his \$740 federal month income – and be forced onto the local welfare rolls – until that appeal is decided several months from now.

If he meets eligibility criteria, Muldowney will temporarily receive a bi-weekly General Assistance grant of \$172.50 through the city's Department of Human Services.

Muldowney says that he doesn't now have an alcohol or drug problem – and that his primary disability is actually psychiatric, but he hasn't been able to get anyone in the Social Security Administration to take him seriously.

Originally from Puerto Rico, Muldowney moved to Cleveland, Ohio when he three. Five years later he was raped by a stranger in a Cleveland park. With apparent developmental and learning disorders, Muldowney, who is semi-literate, made it as far as the 11th grade.

"In a slow learner class," he said.

Muldowney's life story is a long – and often harrowing – tale of post-traumatic stress, foster homes, prisons, suicide attempts, and the everyday violence of impoverished street life. The sometimes-professional female impersonator has also been a resident of the psychiatric unit of San Francisco General Hospital and other mental hospitals.

"I have tons of medical records from Ohio, where I'm from, and other cities I've lived in," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I've been accused of using alcohol and drugs, and I haven't used alcohol since 1980. I don't let drugs in my house. I don't even smoke cigarettes," he said.

Muldowney told the *B.A.R.* he has been receiving federal disability income since 1994, and worries how he is going to keep himself off the street or be able to pay his monthly rent of \$435.

"I'm worried about my landlord," he said.

Ripple effect on landlords

According to veteran activist and chief litigation attorney Bob Capistrano of San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation, his agency has 50 similar cases pending appeal for which they can't find volunteer attorneys.

Of the estimated 2,600 people in San Francisco who received the federal assistance, Capistrano told the *B.A.R.* he expects 1,000 will have their checks cut off.

"It's Congress' Merry Christmas," he said. "Newt [Gingrich] gets the House speakership, and these people get their benefits taken away."

Capistrano and other activists and social service providers ex-

pressed concern about the social costs of the legislative changes enacted last March.

"There are going to be ripple effects. You can certainly understand a landlord's concern. A lot are carrying mortgages, and they just can't afford to reduce the rent," he said.

Longtime transgender activist Christine Tayleur, a case manager at Conard House, a mental health and support services program for extremely low income and homeless mentally ill clients, says the emotional havoc of eliminating the disability has caused a great deal of "needless suffering."

Tayleur's considered clinical observation – borne from nearly ten years as a street-based mental health worker – is that her clients with alcohol and substance abuse are usually "self-medicating" the emotional pain of underlying mental illnesses.

"People just don't become alcoholics or addicts. They don't just wake up and say that 'I think I'll go out and destroy my life,'" she said.

Tayleur said her clients are frightened, and acknowledged there have been "a couple" of fatalities since the regulations were imposed. She is not permitted to disclose specific confidential statistics.

"The human toll is terrible. We've seen a tremendous increase in anxiety," Tayleur told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Muldowney is one such person who says he's really worried – and angry – about his dilemma.

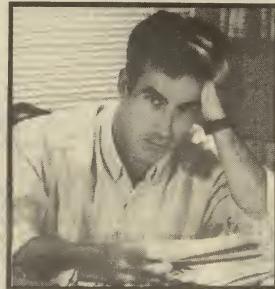
"I feel pretty bad. It's bad it's happening this way," he said. "It's very depressing. I'm just trying to get through the day. I've got so much on my mind that it's hard to function a lot of times."

The ruling affected an estimated 44,000 California residents receiving SSI for substance abuse difficulties. People who were diagnosed with substance abuse problems and later discovered they have HIV infection are also affected by the new regulations if their initial diagnosis reflects an alcohol or substance abuse disability, according to AIDS service providers. ▼



Michael Rico Muldowney: "I'm just trying to get through the day."

Rick Gerharter



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Charges dismissed against two NoCal men in medical pot cases

by Cynthia Laird

While supporters and opponents debate the implications of state Proposition 215, scattered reports indicate that medical marijuana patients are beginning to reap the benefits of the new law, the California chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) announced Sunday, December 15.

In what may be the first known use of the new law, Amador County Judge Don Howard dismissed charges against medical marijuana patient Jerry Newman December 4.

Newman was arrested November 13, one week after the law took effect. Newman had been cited for possession of marijuana.

According to NORML spokesman Dale Gieringer, Newman had vainly tried to persuade the officer who cited him that he was a medical marijuana user by presenting a membership card from the Oakland Cannabis Buyers Club.

District Attorney Steven Silenti asked to drop the charges against Newman after his physi-

cian traveled over 100 miles to testify to Newman's need for medical marijuana.

NORML reports that in another possession case, a Mendocino County court dismissed charges against AIDS patient Rawn Clark on December 10, after he presented written approval from his doctor of his medical use of marijuana.

Clark had been cited October 18 after admitting to having a small container of marijuana in his car, which had been stopped and searched for a minor violation as part of the California Highway Patrol's "Operation North Coast" anti-pot sweep.

Julie Werbel, Mendocino County assistant district attorney, offered to drop the charges against Clark, citing two factors: first, that Clark was not driving under the influence, and second, that he had a physician's note.

Werbel told the B.A.R. that she does not see the case as any sort of precedent for Proposition 215. "NORML wants to give this case

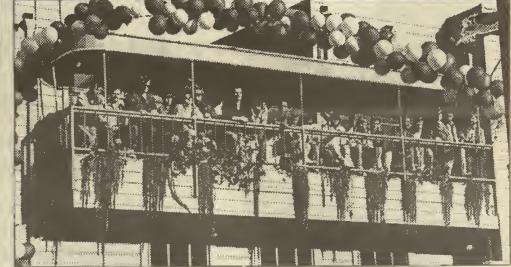
political importance where there is none," she said in an interview. "It was an extremely small quantity of marijuana. I dismissed the case because it was the just thing to do. Possession of less than an ounce [of marijuana] is not even strictly a misdemeanor, there is no required jail time."

According to Werbel, Clark provided a letter from his physician confirming the fact of his illness. The doctor also stated he felt the medical use of marijuana was beneficial for Clark, particularly in stimulating his appetite.

"I dismissed cases like this long before Proposition 215. I don't set it [Clark's case] as a precedent," Werbel said.

She added she was "a little bit irritated" at NORML for including Clark's case in a news release, and said she's received calls from other reporters.

"I think NORML's going to have to look for something a little more earth-shaking than this," Werbel said. "It was less than an ounce, and the guy was sick." ▼



Not a narc employer: The Cafe on Market Street.

CBC narc

◀ page 1

curity people."

Gorrono said that if Cafe employees have told people Bannon works at the establishment, as rumored, it "is a lie." He added that he's had to ask Bannon not to come back to the club as a result of the flyers and letter stating he worked at the bar. And he expressed anger at the people who were involved in making the accusations.

"It's really irresponsible for someone to do," Gorrono said, adding The Cafe has received numerous phone calls over the issue. "It's harming the 28 employees who work here."

City resident Jeff Bullard said he put up about 200 of the flyers just after midnight on December 24, but emphasized he was not trying to launch an attack against The Cafe.

"It's not really an attack, I'm trying to raise awareness," Bullard told the B.A.R. "I feel Bannon's put a hardship on many of my friends. I wanted to educate The Cafe and Joe [Bannon] that marijuana is safe medicine."

'Not in your mouth'

Bullard was referring to Bannon's involvement in the investigation and subsequent August 4, 1996 raid on the CBC that led to its closure. The club sold marijuana for medical use to people who

have AIDS, glaucoma, cancer, and other life-threatening illnesses.

Documents relating to the investigation of the CBC by the state Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE) and the federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) obtained by the Bay Area Reporter show Bannon's involvement with the investigation dating back to a January 25, 1995 interview he conducted with a man who apparently lived near the old CBC at 194 Church Street. Bannon's questions indicate he was trying to learn if minors were seen going into the CBC, and to get the respondent to describe the club as dangerous, although at one point he states, "I'm not trying to put words in your mouth" to the interviewee.

A BNE investigation report dated September 26, 1996 also shows Bannon was the officer who took custody of evidence items seized during the CBC raid from the SFPD crime laboratory and transferred the evidence to the custody of the BNE's regional office in San Francisco. The 28 evidence items listed in the report were all described as "less than one ounce of marijuana" or "marijuana food products."

The flyer, which features a photo of a smiling Bannon, notes "he helped bust the buyers club," and "now he is working at The Cafe." The flyer also contains a statement about the benefits of medical marijuana and the phrase, "Narcs out of the Castro!" ▼

Clinton administration: Medical marijuana 'won't be tolerated'

United Press International

The Clinton administration is launching a major effort to enforce federal drug laws over state efforts to legalize marijuana and other schedule one drugs.

General Barry McCaffrey, the administration's chief of drug policy, held a joint news conference with Attorney General Janet Reno and Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala to announce the new policy.

The policy is in response to

propositions passed in California and Arizona that legalize the medical use of marijuana.

McCaffrey says the administration wants to "make it clear" to all federal employees and federal contractors that schedule one drugs are "against the law and won't be tolerated."

The policy directs that administrative action be taken against physicians who recommend or prescribe schedule one drugs, which could include revocation of registrations.

Federal authorities will also

seize controlled substances where state authorities feel limited by the state laws.

The administration says the IRS will enforce existing tax laws and will deny deductions of medical expenses for controlled substances.

Dr. Lester Grinspoon, a Harvard University psychiatry professor who wrote two books about the medical benefits of marijuana, says in Monday's *Boston Globe* that the policy is "outrageous," and said it "goes against the Hippocratic oath."

Pros and cons of cons and condoms

United Press International

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS — Correction officials and public health experts are at odds over providing condoms to prison inmates in an effort to fight AIDS. Corrections officials say that while sex among inmates does occur, it is against the law, and to provide condoms would be to condone what is an illegal activity.

Officials also say condoms are potential containers for contraband.

However, a member of Governor William Weld's AIDS Task Force, Dr. Anne DeGroot, says an emergency exists because of the

ongoing sexual activity. In her words, "It is time to just wake up and provide condoms."

A federal study says prison inmates are six times more likely than the general population to have AIDS. Advocates note that Vermont, Mississippi, and some other states are making condoms available to inmates in response to the health threat.

\$12M for AIDS directory assistance

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA — A coalition of AIDS advocacy groups says the state is wasting \$12 million on a company that isn't doing its job. The Philadelphia AIDS Consortium today called on the state to rescind its

contract with Benova, hired to enroll all Medicaid recipients in managed care southeastern Pennsylvania. The coalition says that when people with HIV or AIDS contact Benova, they are simply given phone numbers for the managed care companies and told to contact them directly.

The coalition cited media reports that a Connecticut advisory panel has recommended that Benova be suspended from a similar contract for poor performance.

Corrections, clarifications, and addendum

The following errors appeared in our "1996 Year In Review" December 26:

Municipal Court Judge Julie Tang's name was incorrectly spelled.

Jeffrey March, the accused Buena Vista Park thief and gay basher, will be tried in early 1997, not early 1996, as claimed.

On November 5, lesbian attorney Kay Tsenin won election to a Municipal Court seat, defeating controversial local Democratic Party operative Matthew Rothschild by a nearly 20 percent margin. Natalie Berg was elected to the Community College Board, and Dr. Juanita Owens was elected to the San Francisco Board of Education.

Also in that issue, an incorrect time was given in our "Dates with Destiny" calendar on page six. In fact, the Board of Supervisors meets every Monday at 3 p.m.

The B.A.R. apologizes for the errors. ▼

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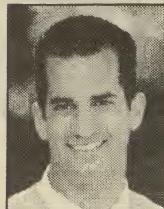
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AIDS Foundation

◀ page 1

involved," he continued. "The actions of the 'monster' have begun to directly impact negatively on PWAs. To use a corporate term, we may need to think about possibly downsizing the size of the AIDS service industry."

Finances stable

In an interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, top agency administrators defended programs provided by the foundation and insisted the agency served over 100,000 individuals in the past year. They called public comments about the salaries of some administrators and the number of clients served by the foundation "misleading."

A review of the foundation's independently audited financial statement for the year ending June 30, 1996 found nearly 73 percent of the agency's \$16 million budget was spent on programs, compared to 20.6 percent for fundraising and 6.6 percent for management and general expense allocations. The SFAF audit was conducted by Deloitte & Touche, LLP.

Lance Henderson, deputy director of finance at the SFAF, also said the \$1 million surplus reported in the audited financial statements is actually closer to \$250,000.

"Last year there was a change in accounting regulations," he explained.

That change involves the way the agency's report pledges are reflected, so that the entire pledge must be recorded in the year it was made, regardless of whether

the money has actually been received. For example, if a three-year gift of \$30,000 is made, Henderson said, that entire amount is shown this year, even though only the first \$10,000 may have been received. Henderson was asked what happens if for some reason the entire pledge is not received.

"That's one of the reasons we don't spend it," Henderson said, adding the SFAF is careful to spend only what pledges have actually come in. "It's not fair to say there is a \$1 million surplus. The real operational surplus is one-

ly, there are 142 slots in the housing subsidy program, Henderson said.

Revenue from private contributors far exceeds government grant funds, according to the SFAF financial statements. For the year ending June 30, 1996, almost 74 percent of the \$16,897,004 annual budget came from private giving and other non-government revenue. Rodrigues said that all of the SFAF's programs are funded in part by this private revenue.

As for those programs, Rene Durazzo, deputy director of pro-

and volunteer: \$674,981; treatment education and advocacy: \$960,465; prevention: \$2,700,728; public policy: \$836,633; and communications: \$448,347.

Outside observations

Local AIDS activist David Lewis, who has never been formally affiliated with the SFAF, said he questions some of the agency's data and direction with regards to advocacy efforts. Lewis is chair of the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Committee of the statewide Comprehensive Care

outstations in the Bayview-Hunters Point and Western Addition areas of the city to target women with HIV/AIDS, Durazzo said.

Investing money into access programs for HIV/AIDS clients is another objective of the SFAF, Durazzo said. He pointed to the successful work getting Chiron Corporation to offer free viral load testing in the city as one example of advocacy work. That effort involved the SFAF joining with ACT UP/Golden Gate and the city in six months of negotiations with Chiron, one of two principal manufacturers of HIV viral load tests. Information about the free tests is available starting January 2.

"Over the past few years, the SFAF has reinvested our financial growth back into client services," Durazzo explained.

Agency salaries

Perhaps no topic evokes controversy more than the salary of SFAF Executive Director Pat Christen. Wisotzky said Christen's salary is \$134,137 as of 1994 agency tax records. That does not include benefits, although Christen does receive the same benefit package offered to all of the foundation's full-time employees. Those benefits include a fully employer-paid medical, dental, and vision plan, four weeks of vacation annually, and sick leave, according to David Taylor, personnel director at SFAF.

According to Wisotzky, the board is now conducting Christen's annual performance evaluation.

Wisotzky said the foundation's 19-member volunteer board is responsible for determining Christen's salary and reviewing it every year. Since he joined the board over two years ago, the board has unanimously voted for annual salary increases Christen has received, he said. An extensive salary survey of other health nonprofits of similar size is completed as part of the process.

"The board has a subcommittee that conducts a performance evaluation, including interviews with board members, staff and members of the community who work with Pat," Wisotzky said.

Asked if there's a point where a salary is high enough, Wisotzky said the board is "very sensitive" to the issue. "We don't want to be above the range," he said, "and at the same time we have to have skilled people."

There are times when the board may disagree with Christen or vice versa, Wisotzky said. "We're both very persuasive, and we have healthy discussions. But once a decision is made, we speak with one voice."

As for the salaries of other SFAF staff members, Taylor said the range for full-time social workers is between \$31,500 and \$46,600 annually. Those figures do not include benefits.

Taylor said there are currently approximately 100 full-time employees and about 420 active volunteers.

The increase in staff is necessary, Durazzo said, in order to better serve SFAF clients.

"A huge percentage of our client base are homeless," he said, adding many clients also have substance abuse or mental health problems. "It takes expertise and strong sophistication within our staff to work with those clients. Adding individuals with those skills, that's going to cost more."

Durazzo said that with changes in Social Security underway, staff involved with benefits counseling also must possess specific skills. ▼

Perhaps no topic evokes controversy more than the salary of SFAF Executive Director Pat Christen. Wisotzky said Christen's salary is \$134,137 as of 1994 agency tax records. That does not include benefits: a fully employer-paid medical, dental and vision plan, four weeks of vacation, and sick leave.

quarter of a million dollars."

Additionally, some of those pledges are from this year's AIDS Walk, and they are collected over a 12-month period.

In addition to the surplus, SFAF has \$647,797 in investments, the financial records stated.

Private funding

Henderson and Timothy Rodrigues, media relations manager at the SFAF, also emphasized that the foundation does not allocate grant money for administrative salaries or benefits. Housing subsidy revenue, for instance, goes directly into the subsidies. Current-

grams, denied a comment made by Stephanie Batey of the Service Employees International Union, Local 790 that only 2,824 clients had been served by the foundation annually in the last few years.

"It's extremely misleading," Durazzo told the B.A.R. "We serve well over 100,000 people in San Francisco, providing direct client services."

According to the audited financial statements, the SFAF program expenditure detail breaks down as follows: housing programs, case management, client advocacy, and financial benefits counseling: \$5,611,985; program department: \$441,541; hotline

Coordinating Council, a group that meets throughout California and deals with federal Title II money.

The ADAP program helps people with AIDS gain access to treatment drugs. Since protease inhibitors, along with virtually all AIDS drugs are so expensive, ADAP programs throughout the country are strapped for funds to meet the demand.

"For me, one issue has been accurate data," Lewis told the B.A.R. "I'm chair of the ADAP committee, and the reason I'm so interested in ADAP is [because] it doesn't have advocates."

In general, all HIV/AIDS programs cost money, with most of the funds coming from the government for many agencies, Lewis said.

"Big organizations – and in the Bay Area, that certainly defines the SFAF – they advocate for programs they provide," said Lewis. "ADAP is about providing drugs to people, and drugs only come from pharmaceuticals [companies]. They [SFAF] don't have anything to do with providing drugs, so they don't advocate for them."

That may be changing, Lewis added. Recently, he met with Randy Allgaier, in SFAF's public policy department, and came away more optimistic.

"He said he's going to spend energy in advocating for ADAP," Lewis said.

Lewis says it's critical to keep "the big picture" in view when it comes to AIDS service organizations. "The face of the epidemic is changing, and it might mean layoffs of some people. Somebody needs to do some kind of studies."

Broader services

Paul Wisotzky, a gay man living with AIDS who is chair of the SFAF board of directors, said he thinks it's "too soon to say" whether AIDS organizations should change. "People should be concerned and start to plan. But it's not drugs alone, it's access to treatment and access to services."

According to Durazzo, the SFAF has focused on adding a broader range and a greater depth to its services in the past three years.

"We added the subsidy program several years ago to our existing client base. It serves the existing clients better. Housing is a major stabilizer. We just used to do emergency housing. We added permanent housing," Durazzo said.

Another example of a broader range of services is the SFAF's

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Pat answers

SF AIDS Foundation board prez Paul Wisotzky speaks to the B.A.R.

by Dennis Conkin

Elected as the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Board of Directors president last November, openly gay PWA Paul Wisotzky says that he's prepared for the many challenges — and the controversy — that come with the post he officially began January 1.

A former partner with Harder and Company, a research and consulting firm for healthcare and non-profit agencies, Wisotzky, 34, assumes leadership of the foundation at a pivotal point in the epidemic — and in the history of the agency.

The foundation is under fire by many AIDS activists who say it is a massive, entrenched social service bureaucracy, whose public policy priorities favor outdated and misguided client services over the provision of life-saving AIDS treatments.

In a December 20 *Wall Street Journal* article, Names Project founder Cleve Jones — whose own health has improved because of recent advances in AIDS treatments — said treatment, and not social services, should be the current funding AIDS priority. Last October, Jones (whose Names Project is not without its own controversies and critics) publicly called for an end to the non-profit industry that critics call AIDS, Inc.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation was severely criticized late last year after Representative Nancy Pelosi secured more than \$100 million in supplemental AIDS funding for the cash-strapped AIDS Drug Assistance Program. The foundation, with similar non-profits across the country, mounted a campaign that pressured Pelosi into earmarking half of the additional funds for non-drug-related services.

AIDS activists around the country widely denounced SFAF for its role in the fierce battle for the cash — including the spearheading of a controversial phone-zap of Pelosi. Critics charged the lobby effort for the funds was misleading and manipulative.

Many critics also view the agency's recently announced plans to create community-based satellite AIDS Foundation service centers in the underserved Western Addition and Bay View/Hunter's Point neighborhoods — as well the Castro — with concern.

In a recent interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Wisotzky discussed the criticism often hurled at the agency — and at its executive director Pat Christen, whose salary has been characterized as excessive and whose assertive management style has also been the subject of criticism.

B.A.R.: How familiar are you with activist criticism of the foundation?

Paul Wisotzky: From my perspective, the most recent issue is around the AIDS Drug Assistance Program. I also think there are issues about our size, how we spend money, the clients we serve. I know there has been criticism about how we monopolize some of the fundraising venues and events. When I say this, I'm not saying that they are founded or unfounded.

How important is the criticism of activists to you?

It's really important. I really see my leadership and my position as an opportunity to build bridges among the diverse members of our community. I want to listen. It's one of my major goals: to listen, and have the board have more opportunities to listen, and to make the foundation a better listener. I'm not opposed to criticism or disagreement or diversity of opinion.

What was your reaction to Cleve Jones's comments in the *Wall Street Journal* article?

I was disappointed. I think that there is healthy disagreement about the balance between supportive services and treatment. At the same time, I think it's a very divisive issue that is pushed upon us. I felt like the *Wall Street Journal* really polarized the community in a way that it's not, in order to make it look we're more divided than we are, so that policy makers who have to ultimately make the decision in this arena will see us as being divided and will abrogate their responsibilities. It's a lot grayer than it was portrayed.

From the foundation's perspective, I think our position has been misunderstood. We did not do a good job of communicating our position on this. It was not a power grab. We have a very treatment-centric focus.

We, of course, want to make sure that everyone has access to drugs. At the same time we want to make sure they have access to services which enable them to get the most benefit from treatments. It's a dual approach. If you don't have housing, if you don't have access to clean water, if you don't have your basic needs met and your life is full of chaos, having drugs isn't going to be the answer. It will be part of the answer, but it's more complex.

How do you take the input and use it in leading the board and the foundation?

During the next year, board members will be meeting with at least 60 organizations and individuals to gather input about the foundation's work and their opinions — what they like, don't like, how we can work better together — and that will come back to the board and inform us and help us develop our end statements and how we want the agency to look. It's essential to our work.

What about Pat Christen?

Pat is in charge of the day-to-day operations of the agency, as any CEO should be. The board gives her instructions through our end statements and we monitor her performance to see whether she is accomplishing those ends. The board sets the direction of the agency.

I was a skeptic when I came to the foundation. I'd heard a lot of stuff about her. Getting to know her has been great. I see her as the brightest and one of the best leaders we have in HIV in the country, probably in the world.

I say this to people as a gay man with AIDS. There are very few people I would let speak for me on these issues. Pat is one that I would. Because she gets it. She really gets it. I think she's misun-



Paul Wisotzky

derstood.

I want to be clear that the board sets the vision and policy and direction. It is not Pat's show. We take a lot of flak because of her. If we didn't think she was the incredible leader, manager and administrator that she is, we wouldn't maintain that relationship.

Where do you think the animus about Christen comes from, then?

We could do a better job of communicating what we do and why we do it. Some people are intimidated by her. She's smart,

she's assertive, she's direct, she has a sense of where she's going, and she has vision. In some circles, I think there is clear sexism and heterophobia — that she's a straight woman running an agency — that came from the gay community.

Do you set her salary?

We set her salary, annually. We have a very standardized performance evaluation where we do internal and external interviews. We do a market survey of CEOs of similarly-sized health non-profits around the country to make sure

we are in the range of those salaries. The person who heads those evaluations is a vice president of Bank of America in charge of human resources.

It is a very methodical, professional, and fair assessment by the board, and the entire board votes on that. Every year.

Are you really in touch with the needs of the gay community and the HIV/AIDS community you're supposed to serve?

It would be stupid and irresponsible and insulting for me to say that I'm in touch with everything, because we are so large and diverse a community.

I will say I think I am a different kind of person in terms of a leader for this organization. I'm not from the corporate sector. I worked in health and human services. I work with non-profits. I work with government. I'm not rich; I'm just a person. I've been living with HIV 13 or 14 years. I've had AIDS for three years. I've been very involved in the community.

My profession has been in health and human services — largely in AIDS. I've done a lot of work locally and nationally. I'm very familiar with the AIDS service community and how AIDS organizations are structured, how services should be provided. I'm a different kind of person. I think that says a lot about the foundation. ▼

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Joe A. Shirley
Aug. 12, 1921 – Dec. 1, 1996

Joe A. Shirley died peacefully at home on Sunday, December 1. He was 75 years old. Born in Carmen, Okla., to Benjamin and Laura Lee Shirley, he had a twin sister, Anna, who preceded him

in death.

At the beginning of World War II, Joe quit high school and joined the Army Air Corps. He continued his education in the service and received his diploma there.

At the outbreak of the Korean War, he was sent to Ichon, and he received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for his action there. He remained in the service for 12 years.

Joe arrived in San Francisco in 1954 after his discharge and met Chuck Wofford in 1957. The two of them were inseparable for the next 39 years, working together and sharing a home on upper Market Street.

While in the city, Joe worked for McKay Radio, (I.T.T.) R.C.A., Johnson Printing and Walker Engraving. He retired at 62 years of age.

Joe is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Ruth Murtha and Mrs. Margaret Grewell; two brothers, Cub and Houston Shirley; and many nieces and nephews. He will be interred beside his

twin sister in Oklahoma.
Those who knew him loved him.

Douglas Walsh
Nov. 2, 1947 – Dec. 2, 1996



Doug found eternal peace on December 2 at Laguna Honda Hospice. The cause of death was cerebral lymphoma. Doug's brother, Gary, will return his ashes to New Brunswick, and there he will rest beside his parents.

Many will remember Doug from his work at the Huntington Hotel, the Press Club and other dining rooms in San Francisco. He will be greatly missed by his friends Bill, Peter, Helen and Jon.

Doug's beloved cat, Marilyn, found a new home at Laguna Honda Hospice. Many thanks to the wonderful people there who gave Doug such loving care. Thanks also to Project Open Hand and the AIDS Emergency Fund for all their help.

Surge in E. Bay AIDS housing availability HIV rental assistance program now accepting applications

by Cynthia Laird

Limited monthly rental assistance will be provided through Project Independence, a federally funded program, to people living with HIV or AIDS in Alameda County. Applications will be accepted beginning today (Thursday, January 2) through the end of the month.

Due to limited space, participants may be chosen in a lottery, county housing officials said. To be eligible, a household must meet HUD guidelines for very low income, include one or more adults diagnosed with HIV or AIDS, and have a lease on an apartment or house in Alameda County that meets HUD rent and quality guidelines.

Project Independence is just one of several programs developed as a result of Alameda County's AIDS Housing Plan that was completed in January 1996 by the Housing and Community Development Department. The plan called for the creation of new resources and programs to address the severe housing crisis facing people living with HIV/AIDS.

Now, nearly one year later, applications to implement the AIDS Housing Plan have brought in more than \$3 million in new funds for AIDS housing, and new programs are getting ready to open their doors.

"It is very encouraging that we have been able to do so much so quickly," said Linda Gardner, housing director for the county. "Our plan has brought national recognition and desperately needed dollars to Alameda County for AIDS housing."

Primary risk: homelessness

According to the plan, the risk of homelessness is the number one housing issue facing people with HIV/AIDS. Of the more than 600 people with HIV/AIDS who were surveyed as part of the development of the plan, nearly 44 percent had been homeless at some time since receiving their diagnosis.

More than 70 percent were paying more for their housing than is considered affordable, and nearly half reported they would

have to move if their incomes dropped as little as \$100 per month.

To address these needs, the AIDS Housing Plan calls for a combination of programs to help keep people who are at-risk housed, while assisting those who are homeless to obtain appropriate housing.

The county received more than \$1 million for Special Projects of National Significance to operate the Project Independence program for three years. Project Independence combines limited rental subsidies with in-home care and support services, and accessibility improvements, to ensure participants' housing needs are met and enable them to live independently for as long as possible.

The program's objective is to prevent homelessness or the necessity of moving to higher-care

Shelter Plus to expand

A second program targeting people who have already become homeless has received new federal funding and will open in early 1997. The program is an expansion of the county and city of Berkeley Shelter Plus Care programs that provide rent subsidies and service to homeless people with disabilities.

The new program will bring the county and city programs together with nearly \$1.5 million in additional funds specifically targeted to homeless people with AIDS and related disorders who need a variety of types of housing.

The third program that has benefited from the AIDS Housing Plan is the Ark of Refuge, a non-profit organization that has received federal funding to license its Walker House facility, which

The program's objective is to prevent homelessness or the need to move to higher-care housing.

housing for people who can live independently with a little help.

Katharine Gale, housing specialist for Alameda County, told the B.A.R. that people selected through Project Independence could receive rental assistance every month for up to three years, provided there is no change in their income or other eligibility factors.

Under the program, maximum monthly subsidies will range from \$150 to \$200 for a single person living in a studio or one-bedroom unit; from \$250 to \$300 for a two-person household living in a one- or two-bedroom unit; and from \$350 to \$400 for a household of three or more people living in a two- or three-bedroom unit.

Applications for the rental assistance will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. Thursday, January 30 at:

AIDS Project of the East Bay, 651 20th Street, Oakland (510) 834-8181; Case Management Services, 8715 East 14th Street, Oakland (510) 567-1480; and Tri-City Health Center, 38355 Logan Drive, Fremont (510) 713-6664.

provides services to people who are very ill and need 24-hour care.

Walker House is the only program in Alameda County that accepts people who need intensive medical services and who have no other housing. It was one of five programs in the county that received federal supportive housing funds this year. Nearly \$750,000 has been targeted for Walker House over a three-year period.

In addition to the special competitive grants received to increase housing options, the county is using federal funds to support an AIDS Housing Information Hotline that started in late November. Eden Information and Referral in Hayward is operating the hotline to provide callers with the most current information on housing available for people with HIV/AIDS. The phone number is (510) 537-2600. ▼

For more information about Project Independence, call the Alameda County Housing and Community Development Department at (510) 670-5211.

HEALTH PERSPECTIVE

A new nuke: 1592U89

by Matthew Sharp
ACT UP/Golden Gate
Writer's Pool

People with AIDS have a new array of therapies to help delay progression of disease. New reports are showing possible eradication of the virus in some cases. However, the new drugs can be difficult to take and do not work for everyone. Some people's virus develops resistance to the current drugs, leaving them desperate for other options. All things considered, there is still a need for newer, better drugs to fight AIDS.

It is becoming clearer that we see the best benefit with therapies including nucleoside analogues, like AZT, ddI, or 3TC, in combination with protease inhibitors, such as crixivan and saquinavir; and perhaps non-nucleoside drugs such as nevirapine and delavirdine. People who use these combinations who have never taken the drugs before do the best. The perplexing problem we are now faced with is that many people who have been on these therapies may have developed mutated forms of HIV which make the combinations less effective, or not effective at all.

Many people have tried all five nucleoside drugs and now need a new one to complete whatever combination strategy is proving most effective. Just adding a protease inhibitor to already used ineffective nucleosides is like taking the protease inhibitor alone, and we now know that monotherapy produces resistance very quickly. So it is now critical that these people have access to a new nucleoside — so new that it doesn't have a name — 1592U89.

1592 is made by Glaxo-Wellcome, the same company that holds the patent for AZT and 3TC. In early pre-clinical trials (abstract Th.B294 from XI International AIDS Conference), the drug showed high potency against HIV. The drug is also synergistic with other nucleosides and protease inhibitors and is active

against AZT-resistant HIV in the test tube. It is absorbed easily and penetrates the central nervous system, which makes it a good candidate for treatment of AIDS dementia.

Promising by itself

Further data in human trials has shown that 1592 monotherapy is quite powerful and promising. Mike Saag, a principle investigator on the recent 1592 study,

Glaxo-Wellcome is clearly taking its sweet time in developing 1592U89.

says that the drug is "the most active agent in its class that we've ever observed." His phase I/II study, presented at the Vancouver Conference, studied three groups of 20 people each with CD4 counts between 200-500. All three arms were given 1592 in three different doses, and after four weeks AZT was added for an additional eight weeks. After four weeks of follow-up, all 60 trial participants had similar viral load reductions (97 to 99.4 percent, or a 1.5 to 2.5 log drop).

Unfortunately, Glaxo-Wellcome is clearly taking its sweet time in developing 1592. Reports are flying in the media about the AIDS community's frustration and anger over this delay. A November 12 article in the *Wall Street Journal* tells the story of people like Stephen Gendin, who have taken just about every antiviral drug and are desperate for access to 1592.

On a KQED radio report Steven LaFon, a researcher from G-W, stated, "We are trying very diligently to do the studies we need to do to see that we can make it [1592] available and that we don't put ourselves or the patients and physicians at risk of making the mistake by using the drug improperly." But people with AIDS have always been willing to take risks, to try drugs before all

of the studies have been completed in order to save their lives. Linda Grinberg, a person with AIDS from Los Angeles who is on the Board of Directors of Project Inform, is not worried about the possible side effects of 1592. She stated in the KQED report that "the side effects of AIDS is death. We can gather data until hell freezes over, but we will be burying people daily. At a certain point we have to act."

Compassionate use programs have been developed for promising AIDS drugs before. It is not a new concept. Since the drug is not slated to be released until early 1998, G-W should develop a compassionate use program now and speed up the planned studies for an earlier approval. The company didn't have a problem zipping

3TC through the approval process.

ACT UP/Golden Gate believes that G-W is stalling the development of this drug so that they can maximize profits from their older, less effective drug, AZT, and further capitalize on the combination of AZT+3TC. They seem to be plodding along with the development of 1592. Urgency instilled upon people with AIDS demanding treatments is simply not there. Company representatives have claimed that the merger of Glaxo to Burroughs-Wellcome has delayed progress of 1592. "It's a business decision, not a moral one," stated ACT UP/Golden Gate member Nadine Lurie.

The drug has been tested in 175 people with AIDS with no severe toxicities. It appears to be well-tolerated with mild nausea and headache. When people with AIDS at this juncture have no other options, a compassionate use program for 1592 is the morally correct thing to do.



One of the first targets of ACT UP was Burroughs-Wellcome, for the exorbitant price of AZT. The AIDS community has come full circle in pressuring the maker of AZT to give access to a better drug for those who are resistant. Lurie adds, "Many of my HIV-positive friends are in a desperate position of needing 1592 and are willing to fight for it."

Even though there is light at the end of the tunnel in the AIDS epidemic, there is still a need for drugs like 1592 and a need for activists to pressure the pharmaceutical industry for access. In the past, the AIDS community has taken it upon itself to make promising new drugs available to people who needed them when the pharmaceutical industry refused to make them available through conventional channels. It could happen again. People with AIDS have shown they are willing to take risks to get the things they need to stay alive. ▼

Cuba working on AIDS vaccine

United Press International

Cuban President Fidel Castro has confirmed that his country is working on an AIDS vaccine, and that Cuban doctors have injected an experimental version of the drug into 24 volunteers.

Cuba's official news agency Prensa Latina says that Castro has warned against false hopes for a cure, because the vaccine develop-

ment is only in the early stages.

Speaking at the 11th National Science and Technical Forum December 21, Castro reiterated his country's commitment to biomedical research as key to its future economic development.

"We can't live exclusively by cutting sugar cane and picking coffee and tobacco," he said.

Castro said "Cuba is among the top nations" trying to end the AIDS epidemic. The Prensa Latina report, monitored from Mexi-

co City, came the day after American Dr. David Ho was named *Time* magazine's Man of the Year for his work on combating AIDS.

Castro says current multi-drug treatments, such as the kind developed by Dr. Ho, are too costly for people in developing nations.

He says the 24 Cuban volunteers injected with the experimental vaccine are offering "a silent act of great heroism." Castro did not offer details on how the volunteers were chosen. ▼

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ACTION UPDATE

'I want a new drug'

Need a new nuke? Demand 1592! Call Glaxo-Wellcome: 1-800-437-0992 (consumer affairs) or 1-919-248-2100 (ask for the CEO) and demand access to 1592. People with AIDS will no longer accept company excuses for the delay.

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EROS

Why I hate pro football

by Jim Provenzano

First of all, it's homoerotic, which should be a good thing, but second of all, everyone who makes it denies that it's homoerotic, from the beer and truck commercial conglomerates that sponsor it to the announcers all the way down to the fans.

Well, most fans.

Watching football as a boy, I was very much like the character in a short story by the highly talented writer Rick Barrett. In "Running Shoes," featured in *Best American Gay Fiction 1996*, Barrett encapsulates my innate bewilderment of men's attraction to football from the viewpoint of a straight father bemoaning the distance between him and his gay son: "He would stare at my TV, it full of a game, and by his very silence say, 'What?' or once, audibly, when he was eight: 'So many colors.'"

Watching football last week in a gay bar was strange, if not colorful. The damn queens kept shouting. Here were men as skilled at

drag as other manly arts. Here were women who can guzzle a draft with any guy, and yet everybody's ignoring the fact that the fulcrum point of this sport is some guy bending over while another guy sticks a hand up his ass to grab a ball shaped like a turd.

I heard almost the exact roars of excitement at a party last week. A friend showed some old porno films, and everybody laughed and hooted through the rise and fall of scenes. From the kitchen, these shouts and hoots exactly matched those of men watching a football game, proof enough that football is merely porno with clothes; the slo mo, the collision of bodies, the asses.

Then there's those jerseys. A while back, college ball featured husky boys with bare midriffs exposed. We saw a lot of sexy guts, bellies and backs. Sometimes the shirts shredded in striptease fashion. That was spicy.



Then there's the unique phenomenon of African-American players wearing white pants, and the translucence of those white pants, thereby exposing the delectable line of their jockstraps. Close-up after close-up shows this. Sports photo after sports photo shows this. Even some Caucasian guys, under the

right lighting situations, get exposed. Despite all that armor, we viewers can still see their asses. Rams, Chargers, Colts, Pirates, Raiders. Take yer prick, er pick.

This is great and all, but what sends me into a seething rage is how the multimillion dollar industry of American sports denies this while manipulating our desires for monetary gain. Sports like football are all about repression, converting homoerotic desire into violence. Ads about football products are all about showing off phallic symbols while hiding genitalia. The pileups, the hugs, the

amorous adventures of jocks, the sneaker ads, the locker room interviews; the whole schmaggeggie is one big cock and butt fest.

So why don't they just admit it? Why don't they get more European and show these guys nude? One of the amazing things about my visit to Paris and Italy was the amount of casual nudity on TV and in ads. For repressed Catholic cultures, they do pretty well in the sexuality department, while here in the States, Puritanical hypocrisy rules.

Witness the recent Nike poster featuring a gargantuan football jock who might as well be

a Colt model. Don't ask me what team he plays for. The text says, "Whosoever dons this cloth shall possess the grit of Hostetler."

Now, I'm sure any jock-sniffing freak would love to possess Mr. Hostetler's cloth, particularly after a good game. Imagine the powerful reek of a pro ball player's gear after four quarters. Talk about jockaholics. Why don't they have celebrity jock auctions for blind cancer kids with AIDS, with the smelly jerseys and socks going off to the highest bidder?

Why not? Because we live in a society of liars. Because almost every man has the capacity to be bisexual, and he subverts it through phallic worship of beer bottles and pro ball. Because sometimes a helmet is just a helmet, but usually it's a cock. Because violent behavior is glorified, and paid for at universities like my alma mater, Ohio State, where rapist football jocks got off without so much as a hand slap because they were football players and therefore "good for the school," while artsy fags like me got nothing but funding cuts in our departments. Because when the big Ohio State-Michigan football game came around, shop owners had to board up their windows to guard against the sanctioned mayhem. Because the day I learned how to play football, after years of not understanding any of the rules, was the day we played in high school and I realized the goal was to chase after a guy's ass to grab the little shreds of fabric attached to his hips, and smashing him down to the ground while grabbing his torso, his butt in my face, his shorts riding up as we fell to the muddy grass, was as close to sex as I ever got with this boy. Because the reason Christianity invented homophobia was because every guy was half a gag back then, but people were dying a lot quicker in those days and they needed to make more people, and take power, and they took that power away from the pagans and the other queers. Because nothing is more powerful than the idea that entire teams of football players gang bang each other in the shower room after winning a game, and wouldn't you like to see that every Monday night?

And because that sexuality is too powerful for stupid people to comprehend, it has been taken away from us. We have been robbed.

Football embodies every heterofascist ideal that has made America the evil empire that it is: It is the opiate of the masses, where a goofy mayor can think himself Caligula, trashing a player with a verbal thumbs down for having a bad day, and an entire city shakes and quivers because of these comments, all of them distracting us again from the blatant corruption of our government, our plague, our closets.

Whether or not someone like Troy Aikman is gay is not as important as what could happen to him on the field. If Troy Aikman is gay, if he came out, he would be crucified.

That's why I hate pro football. ▼

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prescriptions. With the cash card, all of our services are still provided, including a FREE Sharps container and disposal service for all injectable medications. Call or fax today for details and easy enrollment. For your convenience, we accept MasterCard, VISA and cash.

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National news briefs:

Bigotry from AZ

United Press International

PHOENIX, ARIZONA - Republican conservatives in the Arizona Legislature are preparing legislation for 1997 to make sodomy a felony, and to ban any gay student organizations from operating on high school or college campuses. One of the sponsors is Representative-elect Karen Johnson of Mesa, who says homosexual behavior is deviant and shouldn't be sanctioned on campuses. The bills are patterned after laws passed last year in Utah.

Cleveland passes discrimination law with teeth

CLEVELAND, OHIO - A new Cleveland ordinance is the first in the U.S. to make employment discrimination a crime punishable by both a jail term and a fine. The law makes it a crime to refuse to employ or promote because of, among other things, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or age. The maximum penalty is six months in jail and a one-thousand-dollar fine.

Floridians abandon anti-gay ballot measure

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA - It appears Alachua County's proposed so-called anti-gay amendment is a dead issue...at least for now. Concerned Citizens of Alachua County, the group that sponsored the initiative, has let pass the 30-day deadline in which to appeal a ruling that struck down the measure. Amendment One would have banned Alachua County commissioners from adopting any ordinance that would prohibit classification or provision of civil rights protections based on sexual orientation.

A state circuit judge ruled the measure is virtually indistinguishable from Colorado's Amendment Two, which was declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court last May.

Colorado bigots' lawsuit tossed out

DENVER, COLORADO - A Denver judge rejected a request Thursday, December 19 for a restraining order to block implementation of the new policy allowing benefits to be extended to same-sex partners of city workers.

Two citizens have sued the city over the policy, which is slated to take effect after the first of the year. Paul Schaefer and Irene Tader filed the suit, claiming they are opposed to having their tax dollars spent on such benefits.

Woman fights to make 4-H discriminate

HAMBURG, MINNESOTA - A Carver County woman is taking aim at the non-discrimination pledge adopted by 4-H Clubs. The pledge, which all Minnesota 4-H leaders are required to sign, says the club will not discriminate on the basis of race, color or other factors, including sexual orientation. Joyce Stuewe says the pledge is an open invitation to homosexuals, and that exposure to an "immoral and unhealthy" behavior is not positive for children. Stuewe's four children, ages seven through 20, have been involved

in 4-H over the years.

Congress created 4-H in the early 1900s, and the organization grew out of rural beginnings to more than three million members. There are 1,500 4-H Clubs in Minnesota. The four H's stand for "head, heart, hands and health."

Officials say the non-discrimination pledge has been in place for six years.

NJ school board delays action on anti-gay plan

ELIZABETHTOWN, NEW JERSEY - There's nothing like the threat of a lawsuit to make a school board stop and think. On December 17 the Elizabethtown School Board in Lancaster County postponed a vote on a resolution denouncing homosexuality, after critics warned the plan could land the district in court. The board sent the plan back to its policy committee for further legal review. A vote could be re-scheduled next month.

The board apparently is concerned about a case in Wisconsin, in which a school district was ordered to pay nearly a million dollars for violating the rights of gay student Jamie Nabozny.

Inconceivable Dole comment provokes

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS - Gov. Jim Edgar said he is still pondering the fate of Dan Miller, the Illinois Commerce Commission chairman who offended Republican legislators with comments about GOP presidential nominee Bob Dole.

Miller, during a program broadcast earlier this year, spoke out against opposition to same-sex marriages from people who claim they cannot conceive children by noting Dole and wife Elizabeth had not had children either.

Miller's term is about to expire, and Edgar has been under pressure to replace him. Miller reportedly wrote letters to utility industry officials asking their support, but Edgar said he has heard little from utility officials.

Edgar would not rule out the possibility of keeping Miller, but said he truly has not made up his mind.

HIV blood assault gets PWA eight years

BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS - A man accused of shoplifting has received an eight-year prison term for trying to transmit HIV. Prosecutors say that Joseph Duarte, who has AIDS, smeared his blood on the open cut of a store manager when the manager accused him of trying to steal items.

Duarte says he remembers little of what actually happened, and says he finds it hard to believe he acted in such a manner.

AIDS center torched on Christmas

LAFAYETTE, INDIANA - A fire that destroyed an AIDS counseling center is being blamed on an arsonist. The Christmas blaze gutted the downtown offices of Project AIDS-Lafayette. Fire investigators say several small fires were started throughout the facility. The person who reported the blaze left before investigators could arrive. ▼

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A pilot study to determine the safety and effectiveness of transferring lymphocytes from a HIV- sibling to an HIV+ sibling. CD4 count of 200 or below required.

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Phase II of an antiviral which targets the lymph nodes and which works in a different way than any of those approved. Now screening for 10 additional spaces.

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AIDS Benefits Counselors

Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free, for intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Community Research Consortium
Conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-4ACR.

AIDS Dementia Care Unit
At St. Mary's Medical Center seeks volunteers to visit patients with HIV-related cognitive impairments. Call Stephan Ouellette, MSW, 750-4976.

AIDS Emergency Fund
Provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

AIDS Health Project
Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers group; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA, more. Info, intake interviews: 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline
Volunteers needed to provide telephone emotional support, intensive training course provided. 984-1902.

AIDS Memorial Grove
Monthly workdays: weeding, clearing, replanting at Bowring Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

AIDS-Related Vision Loss Support Group
Meets 1st & 3rd Tues., 1pm at Rose Resnick Lighthouse, 214 Van Ness. 431-1481, ext. 294 or 215.

AIDS Support Group
2+ years since diagnosis. No charge, fees paid by Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Resource Group. Thursdays, 1pm. Call Gall Winston for intake: 552-7517.

AIDS Treatment Education Network
Provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS; holistic healing and survival strategies. 284-6237.

Alternative Family Project
Offers family counseling, support groups and events for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members. 566-5683.

Baker Places
Provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

Bereavement Groups
For family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Brothers Network

Support network for the gay, bisexual and transgendered African-American community. 973 Market, Suite #650. Call for groups and schedule: 356-8140.

Coming out support group for women
Meets Weds, 7:30-9pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market. All women questioning their sexuality welcome. Info: Lynne, 626-7000.

Coming out support group for men
Meets Weds, 6:30-7:30pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market. St. Men of all ages welcome. Facilitated by Kirk Hinman, Ph.D. Info: 626-7000.

Connections

Is a confidential, one-on-one peer support focusing on HIV prevention by and for gay men of color. Free. Call 356-8114.

Continuum HIV Day Services

An adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Medical services, counseling, therapy, meals, activities. 241-5500.

Deaf AIDS Center

At UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Counseling, resources, practical support. Interpreting services and assisting devices on loan. 476-7600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice).

Diabetes

Support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual Type I and Type II diabetics in SF and the Bay Area. Info: (510) 865-2933.

Drug Detox Program

Outpatient, medical drug detox. HIV acute care, counseling and education, free. Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, 529 Clayton. Call Hector, 565-1909.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services

Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. 572-9702.

Filipino Task Force on AIDS

Provides prevention, education and direct care services to Filipinos and others affected by HIV/AIDS. 1540 Market, Suite 325. Info: 703-9880.

Gay/Lesbian Legal Referral Service

Seeks gay-sensitive law students as volunteer law clerks. One 3-hr. shift/week at GLRS office, Oakland. Info: 621-3900.

Gay and Lesbian Tennis Federation

Offers activities for players of all abilities, membership mts. monthly. Info: Donna at 282-2453 or e-mail: dmckin@ao.com

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic

Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun. 5-7pm. 2339 Duran Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Home Care Companies

"How-to" practical skills training for partners, friends and family providing care at home for PWAs. 1/8, 9/10, 13, 14, 7-10pm, Davies Med. Ctr. Advance registration required: 824-3269.

Immune Enhancement Project

Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and

Gay Young Spirit
A new spiritual/social group for gay men in their 20s & 30s, meets alternate Tues., 7:15pm, in SF. Call 703-7181.

G40+ Club

A social group for gay/bi men 40 and over, meets 1st & 3rd Sundays every month, 2pm. Call 552-1997.

Glide-Goodlett HIV/AIDS Project

Free, confidential HIV antibody testing, Wed. 12-4pm. Case management, support groups, AIDS prevention and education. 330 Ellis, Suite 518. 567-2273.

Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics'

Drug Detox Rehabilitation and Aftercare Program, counseling and HIV education, free. 529 Clayton. Hector, 565-1909.

Hepatitis "B" Testing

And vaccinations for young (15-29) gay and bisexual men, free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Duran Ave., Berkeley, Sun., 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

HIV Advocacy Network

Grassroots organizing project of SF AIDS Foundation; phone/ fax tree alerts, government lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. 487-3034.

HIV/AIDS Services at New Leaf

Ongoing support groups, individual and couple counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV+ men, men with AIDS, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jili, 626-7000 x199, 1853 Market St.

HIV and African-American Gay/Bisexual Men

Support groups every Wed., 6:30-8pm. Brothers Network, 973 Market, Suite 650. 356-8140.

HIV Care

Offers the latest clinical trials from the AmFAR community-based trial network and private industry, free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

HIV Positive Drop-in Group

Free, every Tues., 7pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St. 863-4434.

HIV Positive Youth Group

18-25, meets every Wed., 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. (408) 293-2747.

HIV Testing

Free, anonymous testing, counseling and education. 1st Thursday and 3rd Friday of each month, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison, upstairs.

Home Care Companies

"How-to" practical skills training for partners, friends and family providing care at home for PWAs. 1/8, 9/10, 13, 14, 7-10pm, Davies Med. Ctr. Advance registration required: 824-3269.

Immune Enhancement Project

Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and

herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

INVENTION

Sponsors support groups for HIV negative men. Tues. evenings, 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 522-1785.

Jewish Family and Children's Services AIDS Project

Counseling, support groups, case management, more for Jewish people with HIV and their loved ones. 561-1241.

Laguna Honda Hospital AIDS Unit

Provides compassionate care to PWAs who are SF residents in need of 24-hour nursing care. Call 664-1580.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center

Quality, affordable, non-judgmental medical care to women, special outreach to lesbian and bisexual women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

LYRIC's After School

Drop-in for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth, 18 and under. Daily, 3-6pm. M-F, 123 Collingwood. 703-1510.

Marin Co. STD/HIV Clinics
STD testing, treatment; HIV anonymous testing, treatment. Call 499-7804.

Men Overcoming Sexual Assault

Sexual assault support hotline for men. Mon.-Fri., 7-10pm. (510) 845-7273.

MCC Chronic/Ilife-Threatening Support Group

Every Wed., 1-3pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 663-4434.

MWM

A rap group for gay/bi Asian Pacific Islander men and their partners. Wed. nights, 6:30pm. Asian AIDS Project, 785 Market, Suite 420. 227-0946.

New Leaf transgender substance abuse group

Mondays 4-5:30pm. Contact Fred Barrios, 626-7000 x146.

New Leaf

Provides substance abuse, mental health, HIV and senior services for les, gay, bi, and trans community. Info/intake: 626-7000.

Positive Resource

Provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening or attend an employment opportunity orientation mtg call 928-1448.

Pride & Prejudice

A welcoming space to queer youth meets every Tues., 6pm at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St., Suite 201. Call Nicole at 565-7681.

Project HOPE

Offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Under One Roof

The Shop for AIDS Relief seeks volunteers to work on the sales floor and in the office. Call Mary Beth, 252-9430.

WillCare Hospice & Home Care

WillCare Hospice & Home Care offers free 20-hr. training course for volunteers. 2001 Gateway, San Jose. Call 467-0777.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209772
The following person(s) are doing business as 1. FIRE HORSE PRODUCTIONS 2. MISTRESS MIDORI, 724 Chenery St., San Francisco, CA 94116; John Thomas Kehoe, 839 Santiago St., San Francisco, CA 94116. Registrant(s) commenced business name under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 6, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed John Kehoe. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 6, 1996. Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209953
The following person(s) are doing business as RAND COMMUNICATIONS, 2544 Huntingdon Drive, Macon, Georgia 31206. Bop P. Johnson, 2544 Huntingdon Drive, Macon, GA 31206. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 10, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Bop P. Johnson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 12, 1996. Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209929
The following person(s) are doing business as FAITLE PAINTING, 451 20th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121; Peter Gerard Paul Mellett, 451 20th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of September 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Peter Mellett. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 12, 1996. Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210085
The following person(s) are doing business as PARKER HOUSE, THE, 520 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94109; Arnold R. Martin, 775 Post St., Ste #100, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 30, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed William J. Boedicker. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 12, 1996. Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209947
The following person(s) are doing business as PASTA POMODORO, 816 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94108; Blum-Paganini, Inc., (CA Corp), 417 Bunker Ave., San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of December 29, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Deborah Paganini V.P. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 29, 1996. Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To Whom It May Concern:

The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: SAILING SHIP LTD. The applicant(s) listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 718 14th St., San Francisco, CA 94114. For the following type of License: 47-ON-SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE, San Francisco District Office, 185 Berry St Ste 5600, San Francisco, CA 94107. (415) 557-3660.

Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To Whom It May Concern:

The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: BROWN CAROLYN S., BROWN KENNETH P. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 2629 San Bruno Ave, San Francisco, CA 94134. For the following type of License: 48-ON-SALE GENERAL PUBLIC PREMISE, San Francisco District Office, 185 Berry St Ste 5600, San Francisco, CA 94107. (415) 557-3660.

Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

Project Open Hand

Provides free prepared meals, groceries and nutrition counseling for people with symptomatic and disabling HIV disease. Call 1-800-551-6325 for intake information.

Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida

Provides peer counseling, legal assistance, workshops, therapy and housing referrals, free. 864-7276.

Psychotherapy group for gay men

Explores issues of intimacy, low for 12-week process groups. Call for info/intake: Operation Concern, 626-7000, ext.126.

Q Action

Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 431-2ACT.

Reclaiming Your Life from HIV

Workshop on living longer with AIDS as manageable condition. 1/10-12, \$100-140, scholarships available. Saratoga Springs Retreat. 1-800-655-7153.

re plen ish

Offer individual and group retreats for professional caregivers in the HIV community. Info: Kay, 864-5140 or write PO Box 4012, 282-9414.

Richard M. Cohen Residence

SF's first assisted-living residence for people disabled by AIDS, needs volunteers (call 558-0503) and household donations (call Wayne April, 282-6209).

SCA

Sexual Compulsive Anonymous meets every Mon. at 8pm, 2128 15th St. 864-7230.

Senior Central

Provides referral and assistance to gay and lesbian seniors. Free and confidential services. 360 4th St. 777-3233.

St. Francis Senior Center

Invites seniors to weekly gatherings, Wed. 10am-1pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church. 621-2635.

Tambay

Support/social group for queer pinups and their friends. Every Thurs., 7pm at Filippo Task Force on AIDS, 1540 Market St., Suite 325. 703-9880.

Transgender Support Group

Multiracial rap group, every first Monday of month. 6:30pm. Call Adela Holody, Projeto ContraSIDA Por Vida, 864-7276.

UCSF AIDS Health Project

Offers: (1) ongoing groups for persons diagnosed with KS; (2) Tues. evening support group for women who are caregivers or family members of PWAs; (3) support group for HIV+ African-American heterosexual men. Info: 476-3902.

Under One Roof

The Shop for AIDS Relief seeks volunteers to work on the sales floor and in the office. Call Mary Beth, 252-9430.

WillCare Hospice & Home Care

WillCare Hospice & Home Care offers free 20-hr. training course for volunteers. 2001 Gateway, San Jose. Call 467-0777.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To Whom It May Concern:

The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: BROWN CAROLYN S., BROWN KENNETH P. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 119 Germania St., San Francisco, CA 94117; Kenneth Roy Wingard, 119 Germania St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business name on the date of October 11, 1996.

This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Kenneth R. Wingard. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 12, 1996.

Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1996.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To Whom It May Concern:

The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: BROWN CAROLYN S., BROWN KENNETH P. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 119 Germania St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business name on the date of April 5, 1995.

Name and Address of registrant: JOHN WOO, 634 Funston Ave, San Francisco, CA 94118, ROBERT TAM, 138 Vienna St., San Francisco, CA 94112, JOHN TAM, 368 Winding Way, San Francisco, CA 94112. This business was conducted by a general partnership.

Signed: JOHN WOO.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the date December 02, 1996. Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk Recorder, by Keith Wong.

Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1996.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To Whom It May Concern:

The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: BROWN CAROLYN S., BROWN KENNETH P. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 119 Germania St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business name on the date of December 02, 1996.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the date December 02, 1996. Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk Recorder, by Keith Wong.

Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1996.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 194639

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business known as THE PARK "N" SPOT, 634 Funston Ave, San Francisco, CA 94118.

The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on April 5, 1995.

Name and Address of registrant: JOHN WOO, 634 Funston Ave, San Francisco, CA 94118, ROBERT TAM, 138 Vienna St., San Francisco, CA 94112, JOHN TAM, 368 Winding Way, San Francisco, CA 94112. This business was conducted by a general partnership.

Signed: JOHN WOO.

This statement was filed with

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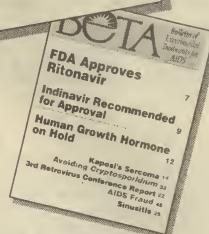
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Supported by an educational grant from Hoffmann-La Roche.

Margaret Gillon has penned a timely and comprehensive guide to lesbian fiction with her new book *'Lesbians in Print'*.

page 32

'Man of My Dreams' is a sexy collection of queer boy prose.

page 35



Maria Callas returns from the dead in *Attila* Csampai's new book.

page 37



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Vol. 27 • No. 1 • 2 January 1997

Desert hearts

Restored 'Walkabout' comes to the Castro

by Stephanie von Buchau

My all-time favorite movie is Nicolas Roeg's *Walkabout*, whose virtues are hard to proselytize because the film has never been issued on video and, when it has infrequently appeared on TV, has been cut. Still, *Walkabout* remains my favorite movie not only because of its poetic content but because it is exactly what a great film should be — a transcendental emotional experience of complex visual beauty.

Now that the 1971 film has been re-released with the excised material restored — censors were afraid that children might be aroused by the briefest glimpses of a teenage aborigine's buttocks and penis — I hope filmgoers who have only heard about this

philosophical paean to nature and stern warning about the pressures of urban life will see it "in the flesh."

Walkabout was Roeg's first solo directing effort, and he's never matched it since. He started as a cameraman, which explains this film's spectacular cinematography. The ravishing sunsets, the sere and lush landscapes, the close-ups of animals and insects that suddenly turn violent, all propel the story of two white Australian children who are abandoned in the outback when their uptight father goes berserk on a picnic and kills himself.

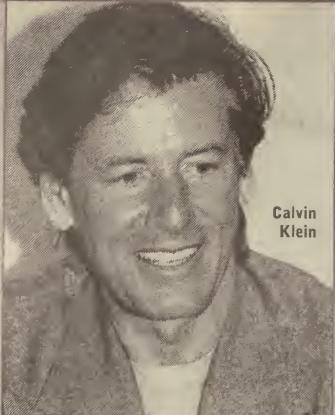
Wearing their prim schoolyard flannels in the scorching desert heat, the two children — a 14-year-old girl (Jenny Agutter) and

page 33 ▶



David Gulpilil plays a teenage aborigine whose rite of passage in the Australian desert presents him with at least one challenge he didn't expect.

OUT THERE



Calvin Klein

Rick Gerhardt

My dirty dozen

by Robert Julian

What a year — *Evita*, *The English Patient* and the second coming of O.J. (alas, without the eternally fascinating Ross Lopez). This year, we didn't get to see Marla Maples star in *The Eleanor Roosevelt Story* or Pauley Shore in *Bill Clinton: The Early Years*, but both should show up as HBO specials sometime in 1997. As for what we did get, it's all sort of a blur now, but here's what one journalist recalls.

Divorce of the Year:

The split of soulmates Calvin and Kelly Klein. After an avalanche of publicity and feature sto-

page 31 ▶

Hollywood 101

Andre Balasz has written the ultimate guide to living and dying in LA

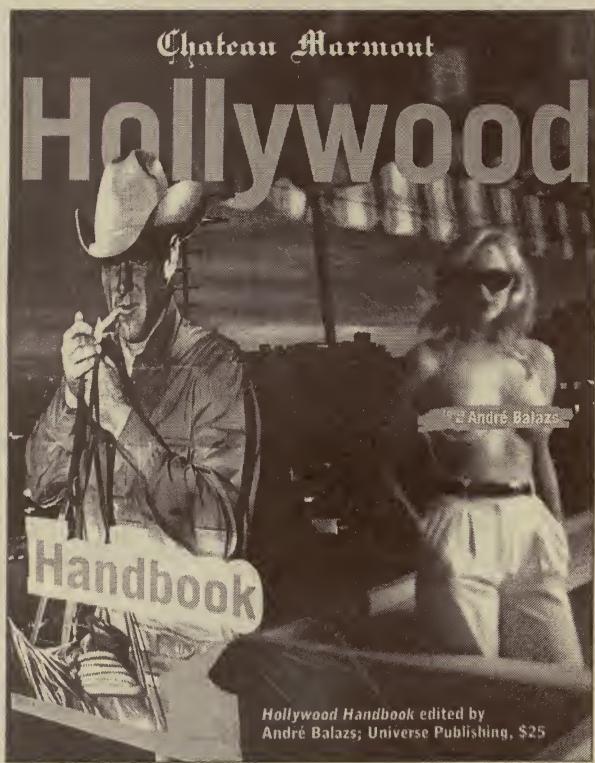
by Glen Helfand

For the last seventy-five years there has been an uneasy fit between the movie-made Hollywood and the actual Hollywood district," writes urban theorist Mike Davis in the provocative new book *Hollywood Handbook*. The discrepancy between rich-and-famous fantasy and harsh street reality, however, has proven highly inspirational to both cultural commentators and film fans. As Davis once noted, Southern California "is the essential destination of any late-twentieth century intellectual, who must eventually come to take a peep and render some opinion."

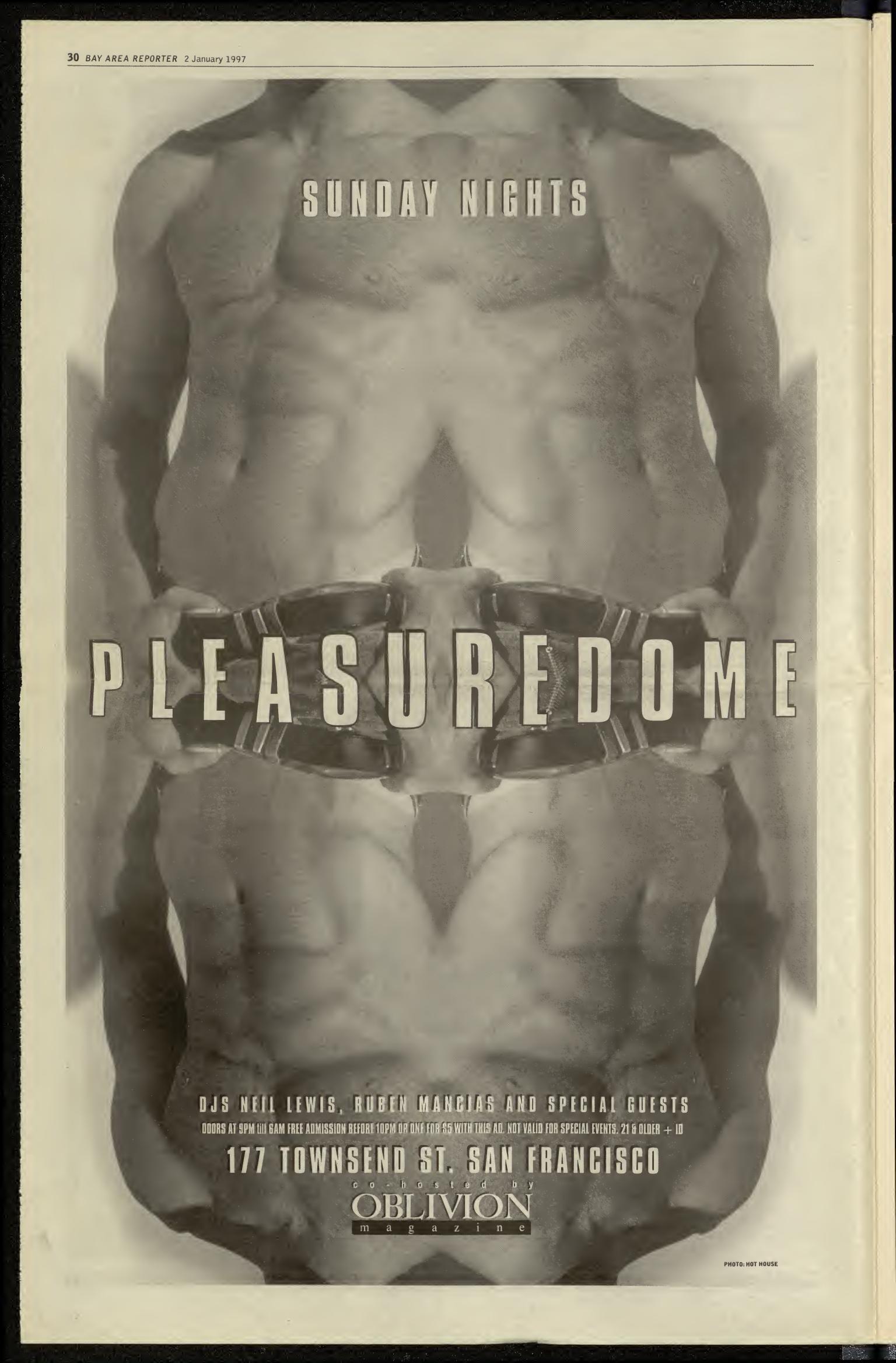
That voyeuristic spirit fairly bursts from every page of *Hollywood Handbook*, a dishy, stylish, image-packed volume of history, fiction, and photography devoted to plumbing the depths of Tinsel Town. Brilliantly conceived, the book manages the unlikely feat of making a nourishing cocktail out of gossip, classics of modern literature, publicity photos, and works of contemporary art. The message that emerges from this colorful mix takes its inspiration from French journalist Blaise Cendrars, who quipped during a 1936 visit to Hollywood: "You either love it or fills you with horror from the moment you land."

Part of what makes this book so brilliant is its tight focus: everything revealed in these pages is somehow connected to one of Hollywood's most notorious and glamorous hot spots, Chateau Marmont,

page 36 ▶



Hollywood Handbook edited by Andre Balasz; Universe Publishing, \$25



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Dyke data base

by Deborah Peifer

Lesbians in Print: A Bibliography of 1,500 Books With Synopses by Margaret Gillon; Bluestocking, \$19.50

In olden times, before the explosion of lesbian writing and publishing that began in the late '70s, finding books about lesbians was difficult, and finding books by lesbians was just about impossible. We had mostly to settle for secret, hidden lesbians, characters who were immediately recognized by the Sapphisticated, but were invisible to straight readers.

were invisible to straight readers. In Shirley Jackson's *The Haunting of Hill House*, for example, Theodora is clearly a lesbian. We know this because her love interest is referred to as "the friend with whom she shared an apartment" and is never given a gender. Closeted gays and lesbians are, of course, the only people who refer to a romantic interest without using a gender-specific noun or pronoun. Thus when Ellen De

Generes refers to being "in a committed relationship with a *person* [my emphasis]," she is announcing to all that she is a lesbian at the same time that she's trying to hide that fact.

Hidden lesbians aren't the problem now for the intrepid dyke reader. Instead, we have such an abundance of books by and about, that the real trick is finding them. Libraries are less helpful than one might wish, since most books published by small presses are paperbacks, a format that libraries tend to ignore. Fiction by lesbians often disappears into general classifications or is listed with books on sexual pathology. And while catalogs from lesbian presses might be a helpful starting place, what about the plethora of books published by feminist, academic and mainstream publishers? What's an eager dyke who loves to read supposed to do?

Well, if you're me, you piss and moan. Fortunately, Margaret Gillon is made of sterner stuff, and she has collected the beginnings of what will be a complete

A black and white photograph of a woman with dark, curly hair. She is smiling warmly at the camera, showing her teeth. Her eyes are slightly squinted in a joyful expression. The lighting is soft, highlighting her features against a dark background.

Lesléa Newman's many titles are included in *Lesbians in Print*.

and regularly updated bibliography of lesbians in print.

I had a chance to speak telephonically with Margaret Gillon about the incredible effort involved in creating *Lesbians in Print*. Gillon was a member of and later facilitator for a lesbian reading group, Radcliffe Readers, that met at A Different Drummer bookstore in Laguna Beach. "The hardest part was finding lesbian non-fiction," the 38-year-old Gillon explains.

A programmer at her day job, Gillon decided to create a lesbian data base, not realizing that the effort would be a multiyear commitment. She started with the bookstore's computer inventory, thinking she'd be able to screen the list for lesbian titles. Alas, the bookstore's data base didn't categorize books that way. Gillon was able to identify some lesbian presses, however, and she requested catalogs. Once those books were entered in the data base she was creating, Gillon was on her way. As part of her search for lesbian titles, she ordered back issues of *Lambda Book Report*, contacted friends, and searched the Library of Congress on-line data base. More searches meant new leads, which led to more titles.

leads, which led to more titles. Early on in her search, Gillon decided that she would not catalog secret lesbians. She explains: "I chose books because they had lesbian themes or specific chapters dealing with lesbian issues. I tried not to list books that were by lesbian writers but had no lesbian content or relevance. For example, I have books listed which are biographies of Willa Cather, but I don't have any writing by Willa Cather included."

"I contacted Marianne Ferrari, editor of the Ferrari Travel Planner," Gillon continues, "and she convinced me to buy an ad in the Planner for the bibliography." Because the ad was for a book that did not yet exist in published form, Gillon realized that it was time to stop. What began as a personal quest for the always vitally necessary something-to-read had become 480 pages of books catalogued by title, author, publisher and subject. Every title had a synopsis supplied by the publisher, or when that was not available, a brief quote from a review. Ready to publish, Gillon founded Bluestockings Books, with *Lesbians in Print* as its first title.

Gillon hopes the book will be "a giant source book for lesbians who love to read," but she has plans for future publications as well. "I want to publish everything, especially some good non-fiction on untouched topics. I'd like to have a press," she comments, "that's doing significant long-term work as well as fun short-term work. I'd like to see a non-fiction book about cancer survivors like me. We've had the books where the woman dies. But I haven't seen a book where the



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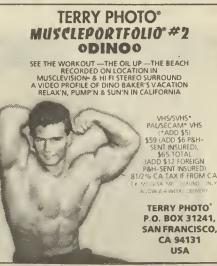
Walkabout

Arts cover

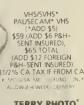
her six-year-old brother (Lucien John) — set off across the trackless wasteland. The girl is bossy, proper and brave; without her grit and determination, they might have died the first few days, but in her bourgeois certainties lie the seeds of the tragedy to come. Eventually the two sons are discovered by an aborigine boy (David Gumpillil) who is on his "walkabout," an adolescent rite of passage where a teenage boy wanders in the wilderness, learning to become a man. They can't communicate in words, but soon the three form a family unit and spend idyllic days swimming naked, laughing, hunting, climbing trees.

Small, ugly snippets of civilization are laced into the enigmatic editing. The minimal script by Edward Bond, the British socialist playwright, is unrelenting towards the foolishness of adults, their civilized discontent, and hideous exploitation of primitive peoples. We understand from the beginning that this "walkabout" is not going to end well. Yet after the tragedy comes poetry. The final sequence, with its haunting A.E. Housman quotation, is as emotionally devastating as any I've ever seen in a film; I can't even write about it without choking up. Don't miss *Walkabout*. It may even change your life. ▼

A new 35mm print of *Walkabout* plays the Castro Theatre January 3-9.

David Gumpillil in Nicolas Roeg's *Walkabout*.TERRY PHOTO®
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Dyke data base

◀ previous page

person survives, and the effect that survival has on the relationship?" Given the high rate of breast cancer among lesbians, the question of what happens to people when they realize that dying will not be part of the cancer equation is a serious one.

Astonishing numbers

I've been reviewing lesbian books at the B.A.R. since 1990, and I have ready access to gay and lesbian bookstores, so I would have thought that I'd seen most of the lesbian books of the past few years. I would have been wrong. I was astonished at the number of writers and titles in *Lesbians in Print* that were new to me.

Gillon expects to add out-of-

print titles to later editions. In-between new issues, you can check out her Internet site (not on the World Wide Web) — <http://home.earthlink.net/~griffgill/index.html> — which is updated monthly with new titles. The on-line site is remarkable. Books are listed within selected categories, such as mystery or aging or separatism, and within each category alphabetically by author. All of which means that if you have access to the Internet, you can find something to read. The book is wonderful, but the on-line listing is a gift.

Reference books tend to be come dated almost before they are published, but I believe *Lesbians in Print* is a work that will retain its value and usefulness for years to come. If you are a lesbian who loves to read, you owe yourself a copy of this remarkable bibliography. ▼



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Women's work

by Deborah Peifer

Creating GI Jane: Sexuality and Power in the Women's Army Corps During World War II by Leisa D. Meyer; Columbia, \$29.95

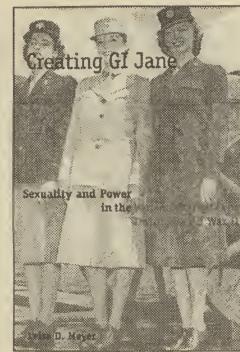
One good reason to read *Creating GI Jane* is to crank up your sense of outrage at the scandalous behavior of men toward women. Another reason might be to gain a deeper understanding of the grotesquely inappropriate "Don't ask; don't tell" policy, which guarantees that the surest way to destroy a woman who won't put out is to accuse her of being a lesbian.

Leisa Meyer looks at the history of the Women's Army Corps (WAC), the women who created the WAC, and the double bind involved in creating the "female soldier." As Meyer explains, "If women maintained their femininity they would be viewed as incompetent soldiers[,] and if they succeeded as soldiers they must have lost or rejected their femininity and become mannish. Women who maintained their femininity were relegated to the role of sexual victim, used and discarded by a male military which violated their trust and their virtue. In this scenario the dangers of losing or rejecting one's femininity were inscribed in the images of sexually independent women: dykes or whores."

Meyer traces the growth of the WAC with special attention to the

racism and classism that were the foundation of the search for the ideal Wac. The search for "respectable" women led "naturally" to middle- and upper-class whites, and although women of color and working-class women were eventually allowed to enlist, they were typically given menial and meaningless employment. The racism of the male military and the culture at large were replicated in the WAC. The classism, however, was its own contribution.

Meyer provides a great deal of information about women who have served. For example, the term "camp follower" originally applied to women who provided necessary laundry, cooking and nursing services. It was only later that men added the suggestion of sexual service to the phrase. Perhaps even more interesting, given the historical place of World War II as the war everyone supported, is the little-known fact that the rumors about Wacs that were designed to keep them out of the military were generated by men who realized that if women filled their clerical and non-combatant



jobs, they would have to go to the front.

That women, like men, might wish to serve their country in time of peril seems to have been difficult for the men of the '40s to accept. As difficult, apparently, as it is for our legislators to accept the idea that gay men as well as lesbians and straight women have a desire to serve in the military. *Creating GI Jane* is a powerful indictment of the sexism that dominates the military. It is also a fascinating look at the ways in which women insisted upon their right to serve their country. ▼

COMEDY

Matrimonial meditation



Comedian David Mills reprises his one-man show *The Wedding Banned* at Josie's January 8-12. In his solo comic monologue, Mills faces the truth about weddings. When an ex-girlfriend/best friend gets married, Mills gets that lonesome fag feeling all over again. Is a blood test, a license, and a husband really the answer? In his quest to understand marriage, Mills turns to the trashy world of made-for-TV movies for an answer. *The Wedding Banned* is a hilarious, wry look at marriage, gay marriage, Meredith Baxter-Birney, and semi-anonymous sex in San Francisco. *The Wedding Banned* runs through January 12 at Josie's, 3583 16th St. Call 861-7933 for tickets (\$12) and information. ▼

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Short and sweet

by Christian Nezbleu

Man of My Dreams: Provocative Writing on Men Loving Men; edited by Christopher Navratil, Chronicle Books, \$14.95

If you're still on the prowl for that perfect post-Xmas stocking stuffer/New Year's gift, you could do worse — much worse — than the new Chronicle Books anthology *Man of My Dreams*. This book highlights brief selections from the work of some 46 gay authors writing on the eternal subject of the love that dares to speak its name (here anyway) in all its many guises.

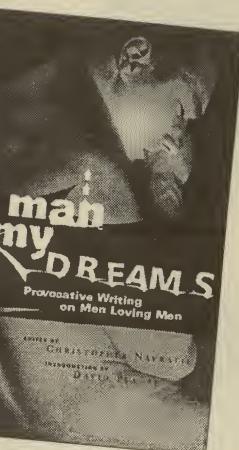
These fragments from novels, short stories, poems, plays, essays, memoirs and letters are divided into six major sections ("Hidden Desires," "First Meetings," "Family and Friends," "Break-up," "Brief Encounters" and "Courtship & Commitment") and feature the musings of everyone from Evelyn Waugh to David Sedaris, Tennessee Williams to Dale Peck. Many of the writers here are represented by excerpts from their most famous works — Waugh from *Brideshead Revisited*, David B. Feinberg from *Spontaneous Combustion*, etc. — while other inclusions (Williams' poem "Life Story," James Merrill's "A Different Person") are genuine surprises that nevertheless strike a responsive chord.

Although some might accuse *Man of My Dreams* editor Christopher Navratil of playing to

the gay attention-span challenged of the '90s with these sometimes too pithy pieces (none is more than a few pages in length), they actually serve a dual purpose here, which is both to introduce or reacquaint the reader with a certain writer's work and then, hopefully, inspire them to check out that scribe's *œuvre* more thoroughly. Such was the case for me with Lytton Strachey, that most eminent of Victorians, whose *Queen Victoria* (1921) biography revolutionized that art form.

His hilarious one-pager, "Letter From Lytton Strachey to Dora Carrington, 10 June 1930," recounts his cruising an "attractive tart" at the National Gallery only to discover that it's really the Prince of Wales. This amusing and perhaps made-up anecdote led me to purchase Michael Holroyd's superlative and recently updated bio of Strachey (*Lytton Strachey*) as well as rent the video *Carrington*, wherein British actor Jonathan Pryce makes a brilliant stab at portraying the difficult, albeit charming, eccentric.

More careful editing might have helped clear up a pervasive problem here: embarrassing, obvious and annoying typos. One grating instance of this is in *The Dreyfus*



Affair excerpt, where Frank Sinatra's version of Ira Gershwin's "Our Love Is Here to Stay" is referred to as "Our Lady Is Here to Stay" (perhaps confused with the celebrated "Our Lady Is a Tramp?"). That said, however, most of *Man of My Dreams* is an entertaining and enlightening read, skipping as it does across decades of gay writing to prove that, as David Plante notes in the book's intro, "there is growing more and more powerfully and self-confidently, a muscular body of writing about gay sex and love and life that exposes the pimples on the back, the hair around the nipples, the hernia scar, but that remains very attractive, very sexy." ▼

FILM

Queers at IFFCON '97

The 1997 International Film Financing Conference (IFFCON), an annual development confab designed to introduce buyers and industry big-wigs to independent filmmakers and producers, gets underway in San Francisco January 10-12 at Fort Mason. This year's conference spotlights a large number of projects by gay and lesbian filmmakers.

Queer filmmakers in attendance with their projects will include: Barbara Hammer (*Nothing Could Be Worse Than Two Dyes in Menopause*), Rob Epstein (*Pink Triangle*), David Haugland (*Ubuntu: The Democracy Struggle & Gay Rights in the New South Africa*), Stephen Kijak (*The Blue Anchor*), Cheryl Dunye (*Peola*), George La Voo (*Getting To Know All About You*), and Thomas Allen Harris (*The Inheritance*).

Producers in attendance will include representatives from HBO, Cinemax, New Line, Miramax, Fox Searchlight, Showtime, Foundry Films, Redeemable Features, Turner, Overseas Film Group, and 40 Acres and a Mule.

Industry Passes and Open Day tickets are still available. For more information, call IFFCON at 415-281-9777. Or check out their website at <http://www.iffcon.com/>. ▼

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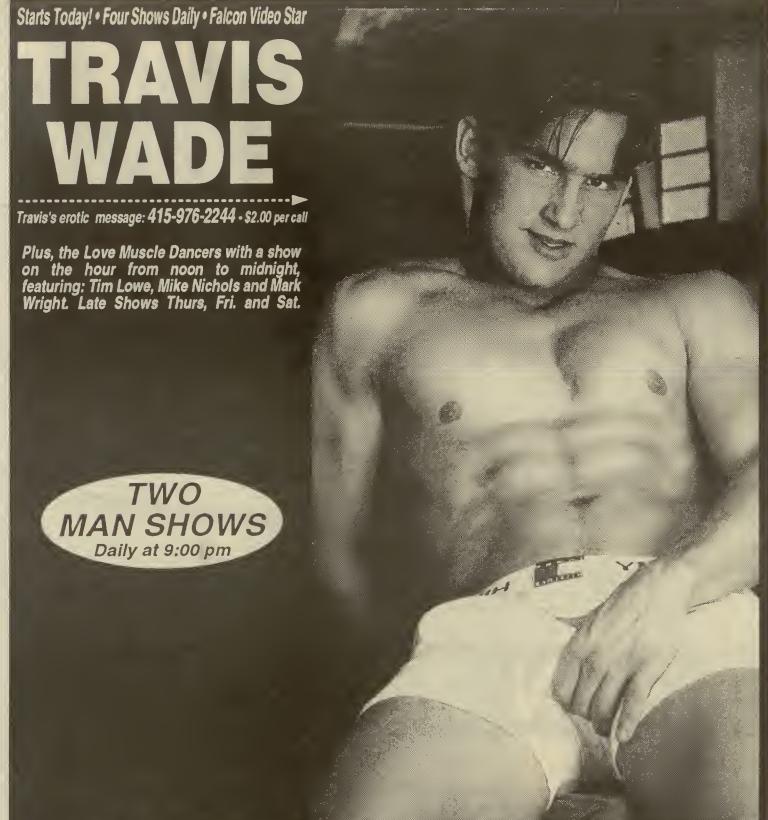
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Hollywood

◀ Arts cover

the notorious inn nestled just above the swinging Sunset Strip where, in 1982, John Belushi indulged in his last freebase and where for more than half a century screen idols, artists, rock stars, photographers, and hangers-on of various stripe have famously hung out.

The book's editor, acclaimed hotelier André Balazs, is also the man who "revived and restored" the Chateau to its former glory as the residence hotel of choice. The Chateau's glamour, however, lies less in its European-inspired appearance — it was originally furnished with antiques from Depression-era Beverly Hills' mansions — than in its hideaway mystique. Fittingly, *Hollywood Handbook* opens with a 1939 quote from Columbia Pictures boss Harry Cohn that establishes the if-walls-could-talk appeal: "If you must get in trouble, do it at the Chateau Marmont."

Cynical readers might think that Balazs has assembled this odd slice of Hollywoodiana as just so much crass advertising for the hotel (it certainly made me want to stay there). But perceptive readers will see that *Hollywood Handbook* is as edifying of trends in society, art and morals as it is superbly entertaining. The casual reader will be transfixed by such things as diagrams that detail celebrity name changes (Tony Curtis/Bernard Schwartz; Veronica Lake/Constance Ockleman), a condensed autobiography of glitterati journalist Dominick Dunne (who stayed at the Chateau while covering the O.J. Simpson trial), and groupie-era memoirs by Eve Babitz. And those who pride themselves on their steady diets of "literature" will doubtless appreciate the inclusion of William Faulkner's tragic Southern California short story, "The Golden Land." Though Faulkner's piece orbits such things as a casting-couch orgy and adultery, Faulkner

was never one for cheap shots, and neither is *Hollywood Handbook*. Even the capsule versions of Hollywood rapes, murders, overdoses and scandals get thoughtful treatment.

It should come as no surprise that *Hollywood Handbook* is unavoidably queer. Überqueens Gore Vidal and Rex Reed pop up, as do fictional queer icons, like Vidal's film theory-wielding transsexual Myra Breckinridge, who reveals in juicy excerpts from the novel of the same name that even she knows Marmont is where "Greta Garbo stays on her rare visits to Hollywood." In another particularly revealing section, Axel Madsen digs into the real Garbo's lesbian life. Madsen writes that one of Garbo's directors "hinted that it was not her vanity but her fear of being discovered as a lesbian." In what is perhaps the most innuendo-laden section of the book, Madsen also recounts Howard Hughes' obsessive control of Jane Russell's bra, as well as the bisexual shenanigans in a Chateau bungalow involving several cast members of *Rebel Without A Cause*.

But *Hollywood Handbook* isn't just bedroom antics. Balazs's astute selections shine light on more culturally relevant Hollywood phenomena. For instance, critic Harold Brodkey offers politically correct musings on the "condescendingly respectful bimboization" of female stars during Oscar telecasts, while Francis Ford Coppola muses on the future of cinema. The messages delivered here concern this town's perennial tendency toward crassness. As if to underscore that point, Balazs includes a telling excerpt from Budd Schulberg's 1941 Hollywood novel *What Makes Sammy Run?*, in which we meet the prototype of today's ubiquitous Hollywood exec. Schulberg's "angry exposé" is now, ironically, a cigar-chomping character guide to The Industry. *Hollywood Handbook*, however, is the glamorous and essential reference volume for the rest of us. ▼

BIOGRAPHY

La Divina exposed

by Andy Velez

Callas — Images of a Legend by Attila Csampai; Stewart, Tabor & Chang, \$75

All the outsized elements necessary for grand opera were present in her life, and now, 19 years after her death, the legend of Maria Callas continues to fascinate and amaze. It is the growing appreciation of the Greek singer's art which would likely have pleased her the most. Attila Csampai's *Callas — Images of a Legend*, a stunning collection of photographs spanning Callas' career, promises to generate even more enthusiasm for the artist better-known as "La Divina." Many of the photos collected here were taken by some of the finest photographers in the business — Cecil Beaton, Horst, Gordon Parks and Angus McBean, among others. Csampai's essay succinctly covers the essential biographical details of Callas' life, often with insight, humor, and no little pathos. Or perhaps we should say bathos, considering that some of the prose is pretty purple. For instance: "She gave the world all that an individual can possibly give and more: she surrendered her soul, indeed, her inner universe." Or this gem: "No longer was there a reason for her — the messenger of the gods — to continue living." Writing like this reminds us that part of the Callas legend was her amazing ability to inspire feelings of awe in even the most emotionally remote human beings. That extraordinary emotional quality resonates throughout this book, whose unforgettable images sometimes seem barely contained by the page.

Also new in the Callas marketplace are two videos from EMI. *Maria Callas in Concert* features the singer in two live Hamburg performances dating from 1959 and 1962. *Callas & Company — Great Ensembles & Scenes* is a compilation of the singer's work with her most famous colleagues, including *Tosca* with Tito Gobbi and *Guiseppi di Stefano*. Both offer vivid proof of the singular magnificence of the art of Maria Callas. ▼

GALLERY

Art of the diva

Through January 18, Terrain Gallery (165 Jessie Street) presents *Diva: Honoring Opera's Legendary Women*, a stunning collection of photographs, costume sketches, set designs, and other work devoted to celebrating the art of singing legends of the 20th century. Work by Zack Brown, Robert Cohen, Mario Calvano, Milton Greene, Michelle Gregor, Larry Merkle, David Walker and others documents the vitality of women's place in opera, creating a context that underscores the unique presence of the opera diva as a timeless phenomenon. Gallery hours are Tuesday thru Saturday, 11-5:30 p.m. For information, call Terrain Gallery at 543-0656.



Portrait of Maria Callas, age 33, taken by Cecil Beaton, London, 1957.

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Year of the ox: 1997

by Mister Marcus

On the lunar calendar, it's the year of the ox (4695), but for most of us, it's 1997 — and this year promises to be filled with leathery activities you'll want to savor, travel to and be with your leather brothers and sisters around the world. I suggest you *clip and save* this column for planning purposes, unless you're too hung over from last night.

January 1997 promises to be packed with events to snap you out of the post-holiday doldrums. The final auction for dinner dates with the 1997 Bare Chest Calendar winners takes place at the Eagle on Sunday, Jan. 5. One of the dates includes a fabulous dinner and a limo ride by Regency Limousine to Berkeley for the Bette Midler show! On Jan. 11, they'll be choosing Mr. Sacramento Leather at the Wreck Room. The first Bare Chest Contest is on Thursday, Jan. 16, to pick Mr. January 1998. The biggest event is the Mid-Atlantic Mr. Leather contest in Washington, D.C., Jan. 24-26. That same weekend they'll be choosing Mr. & Ms. Florida Leather in Fort Lauderdale at "Hurricane '97." The L.U.R.E. in New York celebrates its third anniversary that same weekend, and Jan. 31 is the deadline for Intl. Bear Rendezvous weekend packages by the Bears of San Francisco.

Locally, February will be busy, beginning with the Pantheon of Leather Awards by *The Leather Journal* in New Orleans. A lot of our people, businesses and clubs have been nominated, and the balloting was completed last weekend. The next weekend is the Leather Elegance Valentine Ball at the Driftwood Lounge in Hayward by Yvonne and Rhadika of the ACLC on Feb. 8. Mr. Seattle Leather will be chosen at Neighbors in Seattle that same night. The ICF annual Motorcycle Awards ceremony is on Saturday, Feb. 16. The next weekend (Feb. 21-24) is Bear Rendezvous 1997, choosing International Mr. Bear. On Saturday, Feb. 22, Steve Valpone and Cockatielina will pass their crowns to a new emperor and empress at the coronation ceremony.

March blows in with Night in Black Leather in Houston by the tireless Don Gill, March 1-2. Ms. Gulf Coast Leather will be chosen March 7-9, also in Houston. Mr. Edge Leather '97 will be chosen at that bar on Friday, March 14, and on Saturday, March 22, it's the



Mister Marcus

IML winners last May (l to r): Mark Norton, first runner-up; Joe Gallagher, the winner; and Antonio Sanchez, second runner-up. The 1997 contest is in Chicago, May 23-26.

Cable Car Awards. Mr. SF-Eagle Leather will be chosen on Thursday, March 27, and the weekend of March 28-30. Mr. Washington State Leather will be chosen at Neighbors in Seattle.

April heralds springtime fun. Mr. San Francisco Leather '97 will be chosen on Saturday, April 19, at a venue yet to be announced, ending Gary Virginia's very fulfilling year. The SF Eagle celebrates its 16th anniversary on Monday and Tuesday, April 21-22. American Brotherhood Weekend in Washington, D.C., is revived by Jim Cobb of Utica, NY, and they'll be choosing American Leather Man, Woman and Boy the weekend of April 25-27. The Regiment of the Black & Tans holds its annual Maneuvers that same weekend.

On May 1, the Edge Bar celebrates its sixth anniversary with a huge party and Danny Williams emceeing. The Ms. Washington State Leather contest will be held in Seattle on Saturday, May 3. The biggie of the month: International Mr. Leather '97 weekend in Chicago when NY's Joe Gallagher will pass his sash to one of some 50 contestants.

June offers The 15 Association's annual weekend run, Bootcamp IX, and in Denver, International Slave & Master 1997 will be held with Greg Lowe producing, June 27-29. Also, the Gay Pride Parade will have several activities that weekend, plus the Gay/Lesbian Film Festival and parties galore.

July will see the selection of International Mr. and Ms. Deaf Leather at the Hyatt Regency

Crown Center in Kansas City, Mo., on Sat., July 5 (in conjunction with the Biennial Rainbow Alliance for the Deaf gathering July 1-6). The biggest leather event of the month is the International Ms. Leather contest in San Diego July 18-20. On Saturday, July 26, Club MUD up in Rio Nido will host its 11th annual MUD Party, and on Sunday, July 27, it's the Dore Alley Fair SoMa.

At this point in time, August looks sparse, but I'm sure things will pop up to perk your interest — like the Intl. Mr. Fantasy contest in Omaha.

September gives us San Francisco's Leather Pride Week, kicking off with the Leather Pride Walk from the Castro to SoMa on Sunday, Sept. 21. The International Mr. Drummer contest is on Saturday, Sept. 27, and the 14th Annual Folsom Street Fair is on Sunday, Sept. 28. There will be hundreds of events going on, but of course, it's too early to tell you exactly what.

October, November and December are blurry at the moment. Mr. Europe Leather and Mr. Drummer Europe will take place overseas in November. In October, the GDI show, "A Date At Minsky's," will be at the SOMAR Gallery, with the same format as in 1996. Remember: These listings are incomplete. More info will appear here as it trickles in.

Dis be da dish

At the risk of being accused of faddishness, why not inject some Ebonics right off in 1997? Interesting conversation overheard last Sunday at the Eagle beer bust: "I be the daddy; you be the boy! Get on your leg pods and eat da cheese!" Onward!

Interesting and sometimes strange incidents occur on our campus. One of the weirdest last week happened to a visiting Canadian dude (and former resident) who got so "enthused" watching an erotic video at a Castro Street bar, he went back to his hotel room and experimented on himself with a giant California navel orange! A half-hour later, a member of the Phoenix Uniform Club got an emergency phone call asking for help. Being a Good Samaritan, he went to the hotel, but try as he might, he couldn't dislodge the orange. The last we heard, the SF Health Dept. ambulance was on the way!

Former International Mr. Drummer Keith Hunt, still residing in Dallas, has written to announce that he is single again! And so is former IML Larry

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EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend, Jan. 4-5

NFL playoff games! The Lone Star Saloon with its big, big screen is the best place to see them!

Sunday, Jan. 5

Bare Chest Calendar men get auctioned off for dinner dates at the Eagle beer bust, 1500-1800, \$8. Lenny Broberg does the honors; one of the "dates" includes two tickets to the Bette Midler show, a fine dinner and limo service by Regency Limousine!

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Author Joseph Bean will be signing his new book, *Leathersex: Questions and Answers, At A Different Light* at 1930.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

Wet Wednesday Golden Shower Fest at 933 Harrison, with doors open from 2000 to 2200. Info: 512-PISS.

Boot Party beer bust at Daddy's, 2100-2400, with free shines by "Driller." No price mentioned in that slick flier, George!

Thursday, Jan. 9

First Big Basket Contest of the year at The Edge, with a beer bust and Danny Williams. Win \$100 and a free photo session with Joe Balducci.

Leather Daddy Loren Berthelson's "Butt-rageous" event at Daddy's, 2000-2300, \$6, beer bust, raffle tickets and prizes. Looking for Mr./Ms. Butt-rageous.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Mr. Sacramento Leather contest at the Wreck Room at 2200, with Ted Fox vocalizing and a leather auction. Only \$3.

Mr./Ms. Santa Clara County Leather present

"Boots to Brim" contest at Greg's Ballroom, 2000-2300, \$5, beer bust, raffles and prizes for contestants.

Monday, Jan. 13

Yellow Hanky Night at Daddy's, 2100-2400. No details furnished.

Tuesday, Jan. 14

Underwear Buddies at 933 Harrison. No skid-marks. Doors open from 2000 to 2200.

Thursday, Jan. 16

Choosing Mr. January 1998 for the Bare Chest Calendar at the Eagle at 2100. \$100 for the winner. Celebrity judges. Fun. Come hear the Bare Chest Chorus perform!

Saturday, Jan. 18

Bears of San Francisco beer bust, 1500-1900, to benefit PWA scholarships for Intl. Bear Ren-devous next month.

Wednesday, Jan. 22

Leather Buddies monthly play party at 933 Harrison. Boots mandatory, leather, no cologne! Sniffing conducted. Rules enforced. Call 979-0242.

Weekend, Jan. 24-26

Mid-Atlantic Leather weekend in Washington, D.C. Host hotel is sold out! Thanks, Mauro Montoya, for a fun year!

"Hurricane '97" Leather Weekend in Ft. Lauderdale. Choosing Mr./Ms. Florida Leather on Saturday night.

Sunday, Jan. 26

Super Bowl XXXI on TV!

call
863-HEAD

Rock Hard SUNDAYS
\$5 entry when you show your gym card & muscles before 8pm

BLOW BUDDIES

Everett, who decided to spend his New Year's Eve holiday in Omaha, the leather capital of the world! Lots of husband material there!

And speaking of relationships, former Ms. SF Leather Queen Cougar has decided she will willingly "annex" herself to a triumvirate consisting of herself, Intl. Ms. Leather Jill Carter and the very visible Viola Johnson (the latter two living in Willow Grove, Penn.). I have ambivalent feelings about these long-distance assignations, where usually Mr. Bell and the airlines profit the most. But La Cougar is levelheaded, so all I ask is: "Can I have the pick of the litter?"

The Second Mr. Hairy Man Lynn Odvody, late of Club Mack

and ATOL, is spending the winter in the wilds of western Nebraska, where the winds howl and the closest solace for a leather-oriented person is Omaha! Perhaps he and Mr. Everett will meet up? And by the way, we didn't have a Mr. Hairy Man 1996, did we? Maybe in 1997? Are you reading this, Daddy-O?

We're into a new year now. My thoughts include the hope that the leather community and all its related subcultures (bears, cowboys, rubbermen and female counterparts) will continue to support the worthy charities and events that make life easier for those less fortunate. You did great in 1996. I have no doubt 1997 will be a sterling year as well! ▼

The Original USA **Gay Party Line**

1-268-404-5462 *NEW! CHEAP! Phone-Action!*

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LIVE GROUP MASTURBATION 011-5690-2503

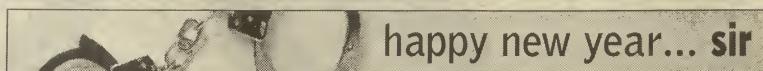
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THE HOTTER... THE HARDER Night Meetings-Live 1-664-410-2071

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Cruise through 100 telephone lines for a live one-on-one chat.
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NOW PLAYING!

LIVE EROTIC JACK OFF SHOWS

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SUNDAY:1:00-4:00-6:00-8:30PM

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ASK FOR AN AUDITION.

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SPECIAL Admission

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(ONE PASS PER ENTRY).



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•2 MOVIES CHANGE EVERY MONDAY
•2 MOVIES CHANGE EVERY FRIDAY

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1997 CALENDARS 1/2 PRICE!!**

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Roberto Friedman

On the beat: '96

Some moments from the year that was:

When the curtain goes up on the final act of *Harvey Milk*, the operatic DiFi is perched atop a desk in the Supervisors' chambers, working two phones like barbells. SF's new signature tune: "The Art of the Schmooze."

An Asian Art Museum curator thanking Dr. Chin Hsiao-yi, Director of the National Palace Museum, Taipei, for taking a chance and letting his national heirlooms go on display in the seismically unsound building.

All the Beat Era glitterati taking star turns around the *Beat Culture and the New America* opening at the de Young.

CUAV and its promoters doing some fancy footwork to put on *Halloween '96* and redirect a lot of the tourist trade to the Civic Center this year, so the Castro could feel ours again. This made the celebration markedly more mellow, and more costume-colorful in the street.

Footsies at the Foam Party.

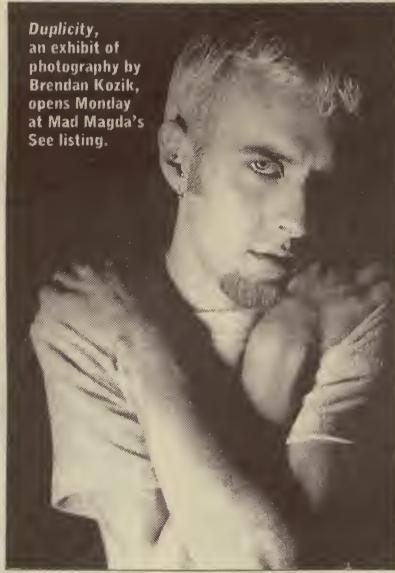
A new admiration for Mama Cass after seeing *Beautiful Thing*.

The long, frozen world of *Tischgesellschaft* (Company at Table), the sculpture-installation of identical company men, sitting exactly the same down two long rows, in the *Katharina Fritsch* exhibit at SFMO-MA.

The appearance of flying saucers and other futuro electronic slugs at the end of columns, to signal the cybercopy webward.

3 years to the Millennium! ▼

Duplicity,
an exhibit of
photography by
Brendan Kozik,
opens Monday
at Mad Magda's
See listing.



Fri

Club nZinga

Global dance party, DJ Jose. \$5. 9pm-2am. El Rio, 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

En Drag

Female impersonators revue, hosted by Chablis. \$3, 2 drink min/m. 10&11:30pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Girlfriends

Lesbian short films from around the world. 7&9:15pm; Sat., Sun. & Wed. at 2&4:15pm also, thru 1/9. \$6. Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St. 863-1087.

Joking the Chicken

Comedian Marga Gomez in

an evening of cheap laughs, smut, and squishy puppets. Thru 1/5. \$12. Tonight at 8&10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Lee Nolan

Pianist in program of music by Ravel & Helps. Free. Noon. Star Classics Recital Hall, 425 Hayes. 552-1110.

Mandy Patinkin

Broadway songman in concert, accompanied by Paul Ford. Thru 1/5, call for dates. \$20-55. 8pm. Orpheum Theatre, Hyde & Market. 776-1999.

Party

David Dillon's comedy: seven gay friends play "Facts and Fantasies." Wed.-Sun. extended thru 1/5, call for times. \$20-25. Xmas at 8pm.

5

Comedian Marga Gomez in

Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Proposal for Surf

Vietnam

Simon Leung's installation proposal for site-specific project on reconciliation between Vietnam and U.S. Reception tonight, 6pm. Tues.-Sat. thru 2/1. Refusalon, 20 Hawthorne. 546-0158.

Same Sex Swing

Beginning lesson, 7:30pm; advanced, 8:30pm. Dance jam, 9pm (\$8, \$10 w/lesson). Metronome, 300 DeHaro. 252-9000.

Suburbia

Vintage photographs by Bill Owens. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/25. Robert Koch Jessie, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

Vanities

Gay version of Jack Heifner's comedy: lives of three Texas football players. Extended thru 1/11, call for dates. \$16-20. 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

A Woman Alone

Julia Baldassari-Litchman in *Francia Rame* one-act, and Dario Fo one-act Duet for a Solo Voice. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm. Sun. at 2pm thru 1/12. \$12-15. The Next Stage, 1648 Bush. 648-6467.

Sat

Bridges

"A Collaborative Project," 115th Annual Exhibition, includes Ann Chamberlain, Ian Pollock & Janet Silk, more. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/12. Walker/McBean Gallery, SFIA, 800 Chestnut. 749-4545.

Diva:

"Honoring Opera's Legendary Women" exhibition of docu-

Afro Ken and Japanese Barbie in the exhibition *Barbie Takes a Vacation*, on view at the SF International Airport. See Monday.



Catherine Buchanan

11pm. Alta Plaza, 2301 Fillmore. 922-1444.

Hermaphrodaddies

Playing with Aint and Cameloe. \$5. 7pm. Kilowatt, 3160 16th St. 861-2595.

Lesbian Friendships

Editor Esther Rothblum and local contributors read, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

SF Concerto Orchestra

Seth Montfort, director/piano, and orchestra play music by Bernstein, Delius, more. \$9. 8pm. Old First Church, Van Ness & Sacramento. 474-1608.

Yoong Bae

Paintings and prints by Korean-born modernist artist. Wed.-Sun. thru 4/20. \$6. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

Sun

Barbie Takes a Vacation

Biker Barbie on the road, Malibu Barbie poolside, Tropical Barbie on holiday, more vignettes. Thru 3/15. South Terminal, SF International Airport. 876-1444.

Dana Atherton Duo

Piano and bass perform, 7-11pm. Alta Plaza, 2301 Fillmore. 922-1444.

Duplicity

Photography by Brendan Kozik using transparencies and found objects. Reception tonight, 7-9pm. Thru Jan. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone, MC Suzy Berger. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Golden Gate Monuments

George Clapper's black-and-white photographs of monuments in Golden Gate Park. Thru 4/2. Veterans Bldg., 3rd fl., 401 Van Ness. 252-2593.

John LeFlore

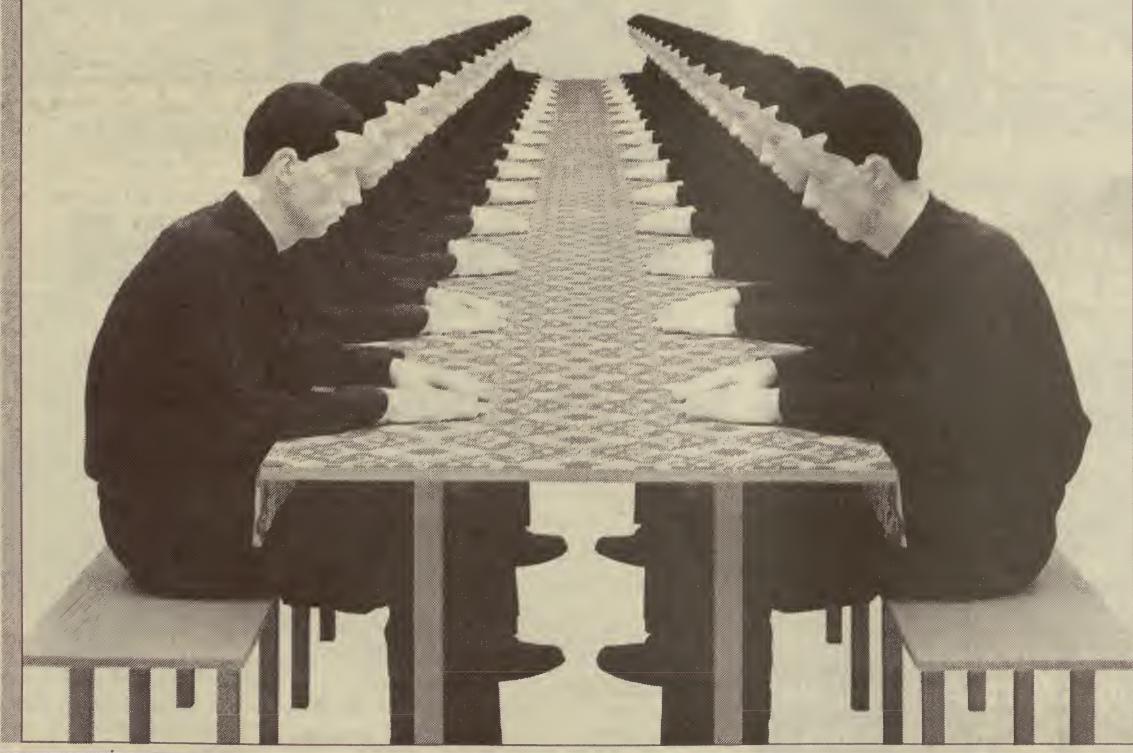
Paintings and drawings on show thru 1/23. Suzanne's Muffins, 564 Castro. 864-4266.

Same Sex Swing

Dance classes for gay men & women. Beginners, 7pm; Intermediate, 8:30pm. \$16/class, \$54/month. Metronome, 300 DeHaro. 252-9000.

Yoga for Body & Soul
Free introductory Kripalu-

Katharina Fritsch's *Tischgesellschaft* (Company at Table)



style yoga class, 6:30pm.
Mariposa Studio, 2808 Mariposa, 487-7648.

Tues

Astronomy, Optics and Outer Space:

Photography Beyond the Limits exhibit, Tues.-Sun. thru 3/16, \$5. Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

It's Only Rock & Roll

"Rock & Roll Currents In Contemporary Art" exhibition, Tues.-Sun. thru 2/16. Bedford Gallery, Dean Lesher Reg'l Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. (510) 295-1417.

Joseph Bean

S/M expert answers Leathersex Q & A, free, 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

La Glorie de mon pere

Yves Robert's 1991 film, part of French Film Club series. \$5. 7pm. Alliance Francaise de SF, 1345 Bush. 775-7755.

Open Auditions

For Golden Gate Men's Chorus, 6:30-8pm. St. Francis Lutheran, 152 Church. 771-9731.

QTV

Gay and lesbian programming, Tues. at 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284.

Under the Sun

Exhibition of photographs by British artists Christopher Bucklow, Susan Derges, Garry Fabian Miller, Adam Fuss. Thru 1/11. Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary. 981-2661.

Wed

Beach Blanket Babylon

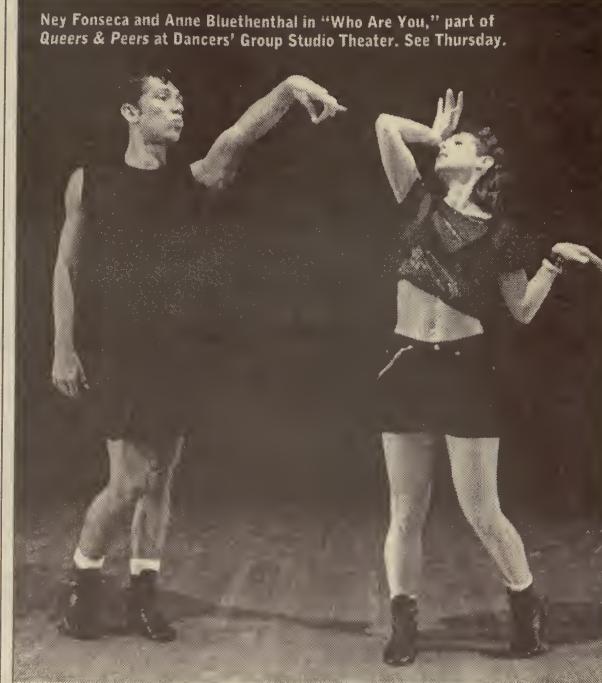
Musical revue extravaganza shows, call for schedule. \$18-45. Tonight at 8pm. Club Fugazi, 678 Green. 421-4222.

Project Inform Town Meeting

Introduction to HIV Treatment Options. Free, donations encouraged. 6:30pm. Project Inform office, 1965 Market, Suite 220. 558-8669.

Scream Teen Scream

Send-up of teen horror films stars Jackie Beat, screens with John Waters' *The Diane Linkletter Story* and Phillip R. Ford's *Rollercoaster to Hell*. Wed. at 2, 7:30pm.



Steve Savage

Thurs. at 7:30pm. \$6. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight. 668-3994.

Travels with My Aunt

ACT's premiere of Giles Haavelgård's adaptation stars Ken Ruta, Geoff Hoyle, Charles Dean. Opens tonight, 8pm. Thru 2/2, call for times. \$19-47.50. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

Trees of Life:

"Symbols of Fertility and Regeneration" exhibit. Wed.-Sun. thru 2/14. \$3. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason Ctr. 441-0404.

The Wedding Banned

David Mills faces the queer truth about weddings in a solo comic monologue. Thru 1/12. \$12. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Thur

Beneath the Surface

Group show, paintings, sculpture, photography and works on paper, features Astrid, Suzanne Benton, Jeffrey Ketcham, more. By appointment thru 4/19. Arthaus, 1053 Bush. 922-8219.

Butt-Rageous

SF Leather Daddy XIV Loren

Berthelsen presents butt contest for title of Mr./Ms. Butt-Rageous. \$6 beer/soda bus, benefits AIDS Emergency Fund. 8-11pm. Daddy's Bar, 440 Castro.

Dad Fought Hitler, the Bottle & Me

Mick Berry's solo performance opens. Thurs.-Sat. thru 2/1. \$10. 8pm. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 626-2169.

El Camino Cha Cha Orchestra

Plays the Cork Club, Thurs. thru Jan. \$4 cover. 10pm. Bruno's, 2389 Mission. 550-7455.

Exile

50 years of expressionist sculpture exhibition. Mon.-Fri. thru 1/31. Gallery on the Rim, 333 3rd St. 543-7007.

Figures and Interiors

American realism exhibition opens, reception tonight, 6pm. Mon.-Sat. thru 2/15. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post. 441-1138.

Funny Girl

Debbie Gibson plays Fanny Brice in the Broadway musical, thru 1/12, call for dates. \$34-\$62.50. 8pm. Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor. 776-1999.

Hall of Fame Hall of Fame

Exhibition of art and artifacts from over 50 halls of fame, thru 2/23. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Historical Paintings

"Of the Great Battle of San Francisco, New Work" by Sandoval Birk, thru 1/18. Catharine Clark Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

James Stagg

Oil paintings in exaggerated perspective, thru 1/12. Michael Thompson Gallery, 1 Sutter. 391-7795.

Johnny Boy

Struggling blues musician passes as a man: love story with music opens. Thurs.-Sat. thru 2/1. \$10. 8:30pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Katharina Fritsch

Survey of works by German sculptor. Thru 3/9. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

MIX: Hula Hoop

Survey of Asian descent present different takes on growing up: films and videos cu-

rated by Nguyen Tan Hoang and Elizabeth Tung. \$5. 8pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile

Steve Martin's comedy featuring the NY cast. Tues.-Sun., extended thru 2/16. Tonight at 8pm, call for times. \$25-38. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

Queers and Peers

Ney Fonseca and Anne Bluthenthal probe relationship between lesbians and gay men thru solo and duet dances. Thurs.-Sat. thru 1/18. \$10 advance, \$12 door. 8pm. Dancers' Group Studio Theater, 3221 22nd St. "824-5044.

Souvenirs of Savings:

"Miniature Bank Buildings from the Collection of Ace Architects" exhibit. Thru 2/25. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Thomasin Grim Strata

Paintings of rayon and dye on canvas, reception tonight, 5:30pm. Thru 2/1. Brauenstein/Quay Gallery, 250 Sutter. 392-5532.

Visual Alliance

Exhibit by 4 American photography students and their mentor, Michelle Vignes. Reception tonight, 6pm. Mon.-Sat. thru 2/8. Alliance Francaise de SF, 1345 Bush. 775-7755.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Roberto Friedman
Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA
94103

Deadline is the
Friday before
issue date.

New Year's Dinner Specials

Grilled Atlantic Salmon served on garlic mashed potatoes with lemon-dill sauce and fresh vegetables.....10.95

Grilled Australian Lamb Chops with mint jelly and apple-ginger dressing, chef's rice or mashed potatoes.....12.95

Chicken Cordon Bleu stuffed with fresh spinach, feta cheese & honey-baked ham, with rice or potatoes.....9.75

Prime Rib au jus with baked potato and creamy horseradish.....10.95

Fresh Pacific Oysters Cajun Style or Fried Calamari(appetizer).....5.25

Patio Cafe

531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th
Breakfast/Lunch served from 8:00 AM
Dinner from 5:00 PM nightly

Theatre Rhinoceros presents



Photo Steve Savage

THE STAND-IN

by Keith Curran • directed by Danny Scheie

a comedy about homophobia in the entertainment industry

January 9 - February 8 • Wed - Sun

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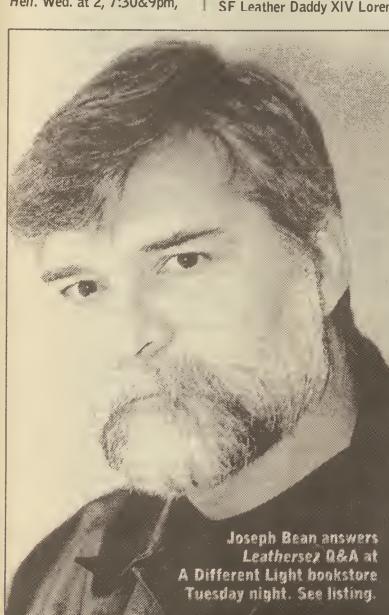
artfull circle theatre presents

Christmas with the Crawfords

starring Michael Cameron Benbrook as Joan Crawford

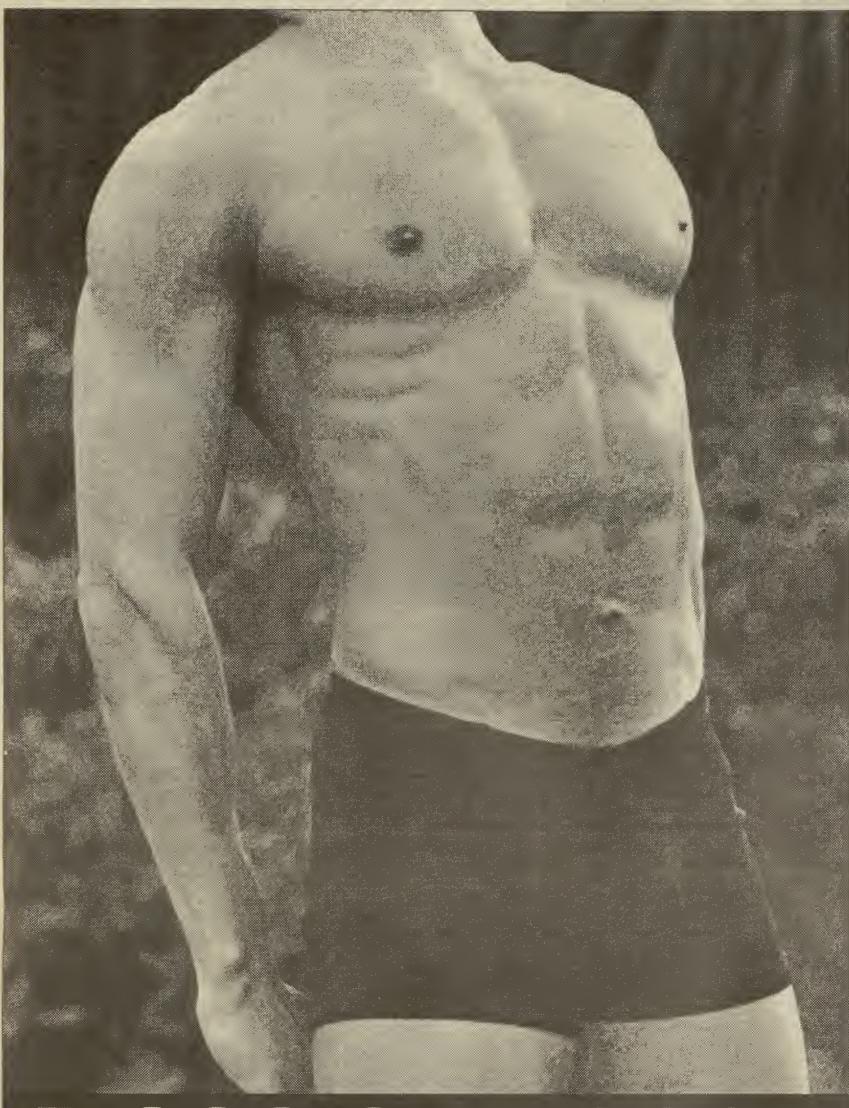
Till Jan. 4th
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Studio
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Joseph Bean answers
Leathersex Q&A at
A Different Light bookstore
Tuesday night. See listing.

BAR TALK



Steven Underhill

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Only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!

Available only on touch-tone phones in the Bay Area. You must be at least 18 years old to call.

PARTING GLANCES

Muni Car Named Desire
Dec. 3, between 5:30 and 6 PM. Crowded Muni train. We caught each others eye, both got off at Castro. I enjoyed our chat while walking to 18th. Try again? ☎ 4102.

Troy Of Noe Valley
Finally spoke with you at Badlands, gave you my card. You are sexy, make my x-mas, give me a call, thought there was some interest? ☎ 4102.

Donut Shop 5th & Harrison 12/6 11:45 PM. Hey hunk. You were inside when I walked in & we kept on looking at each other, then while I was out in front & you drove off. We still were looking. I was the cute, stocky, butch guy in the gray and black shirt, black pants. I really wished we could have met. ☎ 4103.

Bruce!
Saturday Dec. 7, evening, Market Street gym. We talked briefly, you were waiting for a friend, coffee? How's your back? Call! -R. ☎ 4104.

Saw You On Muni Church/Powell You cute, olive cap, jacket. Me: burgundy/black coat, black spiky hair. We exchanged glances then long looks. Would like to meet you, friends? Definite electricity between us. ☎ 4108.

Mike From Berkeley Sat 12/7
We met at Body Workshop at RKD. Wish I would have given you my number, I'd enjoy talking & getting together again. Give me a call. Robert. ☎ 4105.

Troy Of Napa
Please contact Ian. ☎ 4106.

Chris On Corbett At Universe 12/7, I can't wait to get my paws on you again. Bulldog. ☎ 4107.

Thai Tony Posed W/Cowboy Hat Can't wait for next yr. Kaiser flu shot to see you again. Me: big guy w/red Toyota. Love to know you better. ☎ 4109.

Mark @ Tearoom 12/4
You brn hair & goatee. You gave an incredible blow job for hr. Lets get together soon. Randy. ☎ 4201.

Joe From Castro Street
Who read Homer on the beach in Puerto Vallarta. Met on the beach on November 16th I lost you. Looked everywhere. Like to get to know you. Call me. Frank. ☎ 4202.

Berkeley 12/3
James of Bernal Heights I goofed and did not return, tired and confused, not usually so socially malapropos, another chance? Dinner? Coffee? ☎ 4203.

Mahj
Great Green x-mas ball nice meeting u please call B4 Dec 31st. Scary Gary. ☎ 4205.

Walgreen's Pharmacy on 18th
12/12/96. You, tall mustache, handsome, smiling asked for information. Me: tall, black, earrings. We must meet. Please contact. ☎ 4204.

Eric At My Place
You said I looked "really fine." Delightful conversation. You lied about returning. I waited, I'm pissed but you were interesting and enticing. Let's talk. Maybe try again. Oakland AI. ☎ 4246.

Kyle
You were moving Parsons Engineering out of their 1301 Marina Village parking offices December 13th. We spoke at the elevator. You're beautiful, charming. Let's talk. ☎ 4247.

Golden Shower Buddies Dec 11
Me: shaved head, Italian, you pushed me to my knees in corner of tub room. I had too much beer—needed fresh air. (Sorry) thirsty for repeat and more! ☎ 4203.

Muni/Church Thurs 12/12 8:30AM
You: white, 5'11", green jacket, 2 ear rings on left ear. Me: Asian, 5'10", gray suit, heavy coat, stand next to you. We glanced, got off @ Montgomery. Coffee or tea? Please call. ☎ 4301.

12/16 Urban Outfitters Tall/Dark & Handsome! You were shopping w/girl, I was waiting for my friend. Me: tall, sideburns, leather jacket. We said hit, then bye. I would like to say Hi again. ☎ 4302.

Peets On Market 12/17 12:15-Twice
I wore gray v-neck t-shirt. Got shy & didn't give you my card, I'd still like to. Pls call. ☎ 4249.

Universe 12/14
Rob, you asked me to dance. We talked a while. Lost you when you went to call your friend. Please call, Kevin. ☎ 4248.

SF Opera Jacket
Saw you buying Dunhills & Scotch in a Larkspur liquor store. I was behind you with glasses. Your eyes met, wish I said hello. Can we try again? ☎ 4304.

Steamworks Tues. 12/17 6:30
You: blond, great build. Me: mustache, balding, bear type. Fooled around twice, would like to again. Call up. ☎ 4305.

Diamond Hgts B-Mas party, 12/8
You (WM) pointed at me (Asian-looking w/long blk hair) as I was leaving w/friend. I can do more than smile at you next time, call me! ☎ 4306.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP
You Want This
Sexy, 28, sweet caramel, GM, 5'10", 165# & very fit. Looking for passionate, attractive, masculine Latinos & African-Americans, 25-35 for friendship & erotic. ☎ 4110.

Midwest To Bay GWM 6'2", 185#
45, HIV-, brbl, stable, masculine, muscular. Likes outdoors, massage, mostly bottom. (bb). Spiritually/mentally available. Seeks Mexican/Chicano/Latin top, 40-50, for possible LTR. Tex-Mex + +. ☎ 4111.

Seeking GBM/GHM For LTR
GWM, 43, 6', 150 lb., beard, HIV-, professional, may interests, affectionate, versatile seeks similar. GBM/GHM to explore serious fun, romance, sexual/intimacy & LTR. Facial hair A+. ☎ 4112.

Submissive
30 yo, grad student seeks dominant, masculine man. I'm 5'8", 175 lb., HIV-, NS. Prefer same. Looking for emotionally & financially stable man who can take charge without being overbearing. ☎ 4113.

Sexy Handsome Dad Sks Loverboy
GWM, 43, 6', 175#, very sexy body, HIV-, pretty penile unit, nifty persona, very humorous, sees very cute young man (30's) with nice persona, hot body/cock/butt for stud service & possible dating. ☎ 4114.

Seeking Asian Top Mostly
GWM seeks healthy dependable Asian stud who spans & is condom crazy. A caring person while perpetually & eternally horny. Witty & humorous too. ☎ 4115.

Rescue Me!
32 yr old closeted bodybuilder, very sexy, attractive, athletic, 5'11", 195#, brn/brown seeks very secure male to show me finer things in life willing to relocate. ☎ 4116.

River Phoenix Incarnation
Seeks intelligent lover for political & spiritual social work in community. Do it for the World now. ☎ 4117.

Handsome Muscular & Spiritual?
Me: 41, 6'2", 190, goodlooking, muscular, mustache, versatile, swimmer, writer, world-traveler, political, sensitive, serious & irreverent. UR: 35-48, ruggedly handsome, muscular, NS/ND, romantic, consciously evolving. Pluses: mustache/beard, hairy, hung. ☎ 4118.

HIV GBM Over 35, 5'10", 175#
Nice trim body into 1 on 1 relationships. You: 30-45, lean or thin build must be physically fit, no bear types please. Sorry, I am looking for someone who needs to be needed like me! ☎ 4119.

Liking 4 Compatible Life Partner
Me: stable, warm, enjoy challenges of life. 41 yr, brn/brown, 5'9", 165#, not Adonis but still cute. Bushy look, 35-50 yr preferred. ☎ 4120.

Slim 30 Years Old Asian
5'5", 115#, seeking friendship/relationship w/other Asians who are slim built like myself. Not into bars/clubs. ☎ 4121.

Some Guys Are Fussy
About who they let suck their dicks. So I'll send a photo. Leave your address when you call, if you approve, down I go to savor/swallow your load(s). ☎ 4206.

Respect Yourself
Romantic, stocky, GWM, 5'8", 250#, brown hair/eyes, long eyelashes, boyish, responsible. Seeks average sized GM who can respect me as much I'll respect him. ☎ 4207.

All I Want For X-mas Is You!
You are young and desirable. I am not so young, but still desirable. You can be any race. (Spanish Speaking a +) I live in the South Bay. ☎ 4208.

Have Run One Recent Ad & Have Many Good men. Yet no chemistry. Hot, HIV+, over 40, gym toned, funny, sensual. Seeks similar to date. 30-48. ☎ 4209.

Ensnares Los Limits??!
ROM, 5'6", blonde, HIV+, SF. Seeks honest, monogamous, loving, GLM, 26-36 for friendship. Let's celebrate the joys of 1997 together! absolutely infinite. ☎ 4210.

Bearish Big Brother
Saw you buying Dunhills & Scotch in a Larkspur liquor store. I was behind you with glasses. Your eyes met, wish I said hello. Can we try again? ☎ 4212.

Nice Guy Skng Nice Guy
GM, 40's, 185#, br/bl, HIV-, professional, relationship oriented, fun, good-looking ex-midwesterner looking for grounded attractive GWM/GM 30's in shape who seeks LTR. ☎ 4213.

Diamond Hgts B-Mas party, 12/8
You (WM) pointed at me (Asian-looking w/long blk hair) as I was leaving w/friend. I can do more than smile at you next time, call me! ☎ 4306.

Passionate-Romantic Asian Male
Sought by prime Italian male for companionship, romantic/c/romantic interludes, travel companion. Be sincere and free of prejudices. Willing to love and be loved. ☎ 4214.

Slim Cdlnks Hip Retired Guy
Mustache, crewcut, 5'9", 150#, in good shape, versatile, HIV-, seeks similar slim 50+ facial hair guy. Short, small dick OK. Smoke OK. Safe only! ☎ 4215.

Dating For Fun & Pleasure
Erotic Educator & sex worker (5', 5'10", 170#, fit, versatile) seeks men to date, age 30-60, height & weight proportionate. N/S, N/D. ☎ 4216.

I Want A Guy!
Sweet, 20yo, light Latino, brn/Blu, slim, spontaneous, wants masculine, HIV-, Latino/Asian, 20-35, cute and fun to be with. Interested? Let's talk! ☎ 4217.

Attractive Latino 31
5'7", 145#, dark features, mustache, goatee, hard core Latin looks, HIV-, Seeking whited or Latinos 25-35, cute and friendly maybe LTR. ☎ 4218.

Walking On The Beach
Kissing under the moonlight, sharing a bottle of wine together, cuddling on a Saturday morning, these are a few of my favorite things. GWM seeks GLM for romance and ? ☎ 4219.

Small Build GWM Bttm Wndt By GAM for friendship poss LTR. HIV-, healthy, NS/ND, light alcohol OK. I'm kind, thoughtful, warm & caring. Enjoy fun on reg basis. Relaxed oriented, passionate, serious only pls. ☎ 4220.

Chubby/Daddy/Teddy/Grizzly Bear-Bear. 49, 6', 252, short hair, beard, stache. Hairy chest. 6" cut. Versatile. Vanilla & affection to light kink. You: Younger than I, trim and easy to the eyes. ☎ 4221.

Rare GAM Born In Shanghai
Attractive 48, looks 30ish, 5'9", 150#, toned hot body. Loves music of Philip glass & art of Irving Norman. Seeks GM to date, prefer 28-48, sexy, very fit & open minded. ☎ 4250.

Mr. Martha Stewart Needs Lover
30, Martha Stewart-type GAM, elegant artist/writer, nice-looking, stylish, intelligent, smooth body, seeks GWM, 30-50, to enjoy good quality living together. Your mature, handsome husband-type. ☎ 4251.

Handsome Muscular Italian
38, 6'2", 185#, into fitness, travel, romance & quiet times, sees another HIV-, extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 4252.

Country Man Wanted
GWSM 32, 5'6", 150#, muscular kooky humorous westerner ISO LTR. You: 32+, straight, muscular. Needing affection & love. I look 40, my place in N. Ca. ☎ 4253.

Attractive Latin 25
HIV+, 5'7", 165#, witty, masculine, muscular, seeking Latinos or Caucasians 24-35, for friendship, perhaps more. Outgoing, independent & open-minded (no stereo types) only. ☎ 4254.

Friend Wanted
Seeking GAM, 28-45 yrs who enjoys music, movies & quality fun time. I'm Asian, 29, 6', 170#, goodlooking & well build, mature, w/ a sense of humor. Look forward to hearing from you. ☎ 4255.

East Bay HIV+ Top Wanted
Must have dark hair, brown eyes, mustache. HIV+, GWM, 34, blue, blond, 6', 185#, handsome, passive in Concord area needs boyfriend, LTR. ☎ 4256.

Looking For Sexy Black Man
Would like to meet a cute BM, 25-34, who is fun, secure, NS, smooth, toned lean body. I am WM, 34, 6', 165#, handsome, dark hair, big brown eyes, nice smile, NS, tight lean body & gllng. Be versatile & HIV-. ☎ 4307.

Attention "Cornfed" GWM/GLM
Clean-cut but sexualized, friendly, athletic, GAM, 27, 5'10", 165#, enjoys sensual sex, conversations, movies, spirituality, travel, music seeks mid-west values, comedic, outgoing, athletic; prefers 27-37, 170# +, 5'10" +, versatile, HIV-, NS/ND for fun!!! ☎ 4308.

Hndsm Bearded Bottom GWM 43
HIV+, healthy, 5'11", 155#, br/gr, lightly hairy, gun & yoga toned. ISO hot top for sensual hairy sex. Like facial hair, big men, any race. Bears, Daddies A+. ☎ 4309.

To Ron—From Robert
You left message on my machine weekend after Thanksgiving, but I missed your number. Please call back with your phone number & the time I can best reach you. Thanks. ☎ 4310.

North Bay Fuck Buddy
Wanted by GWM, 40, 6', 180#, hairy chest, nice butt, versatile, good-looking. Seeks NS for adventure/LTR. Like motorcycles, nude beaches. ☎ 4311.

A Natural Man
Gym toned bi-sexual or gay, butch, take charge down to earth kind of man to share a dream with. Curious? Let's talk. ☎ 4312.

Holiday Blues
Extraverted Asian male seeking others for holiday cheer. Tired of being alone? ISO who are friendly, sharing, hugging and warm. Let's see what we can unwrap. ☎ 4313.

72 Years Young
ISO lover, 18-24 yo. Must be fit, trim, financially independent. Race not important. Let's do the wild thing! ☎ 4314.

Need A New Boyfriend?

WM, 52 (looks 30's), 5'11", 155#, clean shaven, NS/ND, HIV-, looking for AM, 25-35, short, slim, for LTR. Like 60's-80's music, theater, dancing, travel, scuba, photography, movies, dancing, cats. Affectionate, loyal, marriage-minded. ☎ 4315.

Salt And Pepper

Handsome GWM, 42, 6', 190#, seeks handsome GWM under 42 for friendship and fun. Prefer HIV-, mustache, non-balding, trim, In-shape, & masculine. ☎ 4316.

Hot Hung Aggressive Man Wants A sum, hungry oral bottom. I'm 58, 5'8", 130#, good build. Into leather, affection, hot body contact, many things. Call if in good shape 7 eager to please. Thank you. ☎ 4317.

Hot Latino

Attractive, 48, masculine, looks 30ish, 5'7", 130#, toned hot body. Seeking GAM, Pacific Islander. GWM, or GLM. HIV-, NS, for potential LTR. ☎ 4318.

100% Cotton And Brown Leather Guy Attractive, sexy, charming/photographer, writer, excellent lover. Seeks 21-38 "model" image. Guess, Tommy, Polo guys my type. Love flannel, denim, corduroy, buttons, zippers, boxes, briefs. HIV-/eventual LTR. ☎ 4319.

U Got 2 Be Real

ISO masculine black man for friendship & more. I'm 29, 5'8", 180#, hairy, tattoos, HIV+, gay Hawaiian male. Need not be HIV+ but you must be stable & real. ☎ 4320.

SEEKING ADVENTURE**Thin Muscle Boy Hot Ass**

Dominant, muscular, fuck stud, 37, 1853, 6'1", seeks boys/men, 18-45, with hard body, & tight, muscular, non-fat butts for plowing with my 8' dick. ☎ 4222.

Latin And Black Men

GWM, 42, submissive bottom. 6'2", attractive. Has deep throat, ass for your pleasure. Regular sexual sessions. Waiting for your call! ☎ 423.

Let's Wrestle

Muscular, handsome GWM seeks others turned on by wrestling. Open to all skill levels & fantasies. No heavy rough housing. Just good, clean sweaty fun. Go ahead & call—you won't be disappointed. S 4242.

Big Fat White Guy Expertly Services Height/weight proportioned Mexican & Brazilian studs at my Civic Center apartment. The best, deepest thrill! Reciprocal discussion. Kick back. ☎ 4242.

Horny Masculine Handsome 43 You are: 35-50, butch, good shape, drug free, for fun times, massage, oral, rimming, safe. ☎ 4246.

Dominant Top Who is middle-aged & experienced is available for gay or bisexual GWM, 20-45 bottom. ☎ 4247.

Oral Pleasure

Seeking GM under 45 in need of oral satisfaction. Be HIV-, disease/drug free. Let me help relieve a little stress in your life. Call & smile today! ☎ 4248.

Here Is My Fantasy . I Lay Down Naked You walk in (door unlock) you grease my man's hole & fuck me real good. GGM are most welcome. ☎ 4249.

BM Into Butch Bottom & More I'm into butch, Mexican, Latin brother, kick it with. Let's talk. Be for real, dude. Fetishes cool! ☎ 430.

Sensual Erotic Men's Group Looking for a few good men. Sensitive, nurturing, safe & yet able to enjoy open masculinity erotic group play. ☎ 4313.

Asian Seeks Asians

Asian 29 yo, 5'5", 115#, seeks similar Asian guys who are slim & short for fun. Uncut & hairy a plus (hairy balls & ass). Let's have some hot raunchy fun! ☎ 4323.

ISO HIV+ & GWM Top

Healthy HIV+, GWM, submissive bottom seeks HIV+ & GWM under 45. I'm 6 ft, 37, 180#. How about a little holiday madness. ☎ 4313.

Seeking Mature Gents

Looking for hot sex with GWM up to 65 with thick cock & a wicked streak. I'm HIV- & NS. UBB2. ☎ 4314.

Musclebear Daddy Bottom

Beefy, hairy stud, HIV+, needs horse hung top to feed my hot mouth & plow my tight muscle butt. Muscles/uncut A+. Hung big thick must. ☎ 4315.

No Fur—No Fur

GWM, bro/bro, goatee, 40+ yrs, in shape, 5'7", 145#, lightly furry chest. On the hunt for, in shape GWM, 30+, masculine, mustached, fur covered man for fun. Sandy bro-blond A+. ☎ 4316.

Asian Seeking Bareback Sex

Skinny Asian in SF, 29 yr old, seeks other Asians, whites & Latinos into hot raw & bareback sex on a regular basis, group sex welcome. Skinny & slim boys most welcome. ☎ 4317.

Oversexed Elf Looking For Santa Well-hung, sexy elf, 5'9", 130#, looking for sexy, well-hung top to give me that really big present. Let me jingle your balls! ☎ 4318.

Very Oral Fun

Seven hour suck slit, cute, blond, late 30's. Real long thin or medium size preferred. Loves Hollywood, skiing & gambling. ☎ 4152.

Raunchy Young Studs

Dominant, 21-30, cute, sexy, wanting to get serviced then get real raunchy for w/u to share some fantasies with me, bring a buddy? ☎ 4222.

Sweaty Sex Wntd By Gym Latin

Large endowment. Bottom versatile. Digs oral sex, porno, jock straps and more with big dicks. 5'7", 155#. Call anytime. Lets mess around. ☎ 4223.

I'm Looking For The Biggest

Cocks in SF. I'll do anything you want if it's 10' or more. Leave a description. ☎ 4224.

Serious Cock Sucker

47, GWM, seeks serious cocks 8" or better, cut or uncut. For great laid back service. Any race, age, serious about. Downtown SF. ☎ 4225.

East Bay Cumrater

Hot, sexy, Spanish guy love to swallow loads. Recip OK but not required. Uncut a+. Must be clean, discreet. East Bay only. ☎ 4226.

What's It All About?

Very BiWM, 33, goodlooking, in shape, HIV-, seeking similar GWM under 40's who's patient and sincere to take me by? And show me what it's about? ☎ 4227.

Ride On My Bushy Mustache

And feel my long tongue up your hot but. Me: 6', 165#, br/bl, 39. You: hot and ready. ☎ 4228.

Latino Wanted...

GWM 27, 150#, swimmers build, French/German, green eyes, seeking Latino playmate. ☎ 4229.

Sexual Adventure

Gdking, 33, br/bl, hot hungry bottom, GWM, cute, in good shape, hairy chest. Like jockstraps, leather and masculine men. ☎ 4230.

Tight Bubble Butt

Needs a man with a big hard dick to plow me long and hard. I'm 26yo, 5'7", 140#, mustache, goatee, shaved balls & balls. ☎ 4231.

San Jose, Hung, Hard Bodied

Straight acting, 34yo locker, 5'8", 145#, 29" waist, 7"x5" cut, shave hot hole & balls squeaky clean and hot for blacks, Latinos etc. Lets party. Bring a buddy. S 4232.

Kick Back! Long Sessions

GWM, 5'10", 160#, prbr, ctn shaved, tanned, tall, slim, gdking, intelligent, submissive, seeks professional GWM, 6'8", HIV-, mature, to teach me gentle and with respect the pleasure of being dominated. Any age, couple welcome. ☎ 4233.

Black Master Where Are You?

Very hairy, muscular, hung, 29yo BM, 59, 180 is looking for a safe honest, masculine, muscular, sexy guy for continuous long sessions of safe man sex. Hung a+. ☎ 4235.

Muscular Fuck Daddy Wanted

Very horny, muscular, hung, 29yo BM, 59, 180 is looking for a safe honest, masculine, muscular, sexy guy for continuous long sessions of safe man sex. Hung a+. ☎ 4235.

Bottom Seeks Bareback Tops

Horny butch/ISO cocks, cum & fists. I'm a sleazy promiscuous, poz pigsit, 44, tall, trim, stache & goatee. ☎ 4327.

Asian Seeks Asians Asian 29 yo, 5'5", 115#, seeks similar Asian guys who are slim & short for fun. Uncut & hairy a plus (hairy balls & ass). Let's have some hot raunchy fun! ☎ 4323.

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Healthy HIV+, GWM, submissive bottom seeks HIV+ & GWM under 45. I'm 6 ft, 37, 180#. How about a little holiday madness. ☎ 4313.

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GWM, bro/bro, goatee, 40+ yrs, in shape, 5'7", 145#, lightly furry chest. On the hunt for, in shape GWM, 30+, masculine, mustached, fur covered man for fun. Sandy bro-blond A+. ☎ 4316.

Shamanic SM

Bondage master (rare) interested in Shamanism wants independent masochist and/or submissive 30-47yo for partnership. Be in shape. I'm 5'9", 180#, handsome, muscular sadist. Exp & serious only. ☎ 4326.

Tired From The Holidays? Stop by my place for a hot tongue buried up your butt by a hot Italian, 43, 6', 190#, facial hair, & relax & get off tonight. ☎ 4327.

I Fall On My Knees

...you hear the angels' voices. Kick back for comprehensive oral relief from: GWM, bottomless throat, 6', 170#, goatee, 40's, big grin, big heart, fairly big brain. Nice fellas too. Arrive very full; leave completely empty. ☎ 4328.

Go Ahead, Show It Off

Play with it, get it hard, get it off near a window or in your car where you will be seen by appreciative eyes. I love to watch exhibitionistic guys. ☎ 4259.

Marathon Party Service

Smooth lean, masculine, 33 yrs GWM, 5'9", insatiable appetite for service for GWM Dad/jock. Handsome, muscular, well-endowed man likes to kick back & party for a weekend. No recip. ☎ 4329.

GWM Wants Hot Tongue

Eat my hot, clean, butt. Suck my tits & cock. If you want to pound me. Got a friend? Great! ☎ 4330.

Seeking Hung Males

Bik male, 6'1", 180#, hung, clean shaven, muscular, seeking. Seeking other hung males for sex. Good butt a plus. ☎ 4331.

Tight Butt For You

Tall, GWM, 49, HIV-, goatee, smooth, cut, average hard plunger, looking for GWM, w/cut tool for oral celebration. ☎ 4328.

Attention Short Guys 5'2"-5'7"

Into exploring sensual relaxed & fun times. GWM, 5'6", 145#, great, friendly & big dick. Friendly & east to be with. Into same size guys. Bold & adventurous. Call now. ☎ 4329.

ISO Hot Adven Top W/Exceptional Endowment

that makes my cock rock hard & kinky, provocative ideas that stir my balls. GWM, 36, 5'5", 150#, attractive, well-built, hungry, adventurous bottom. Uncut, big balls/loads plus. ☎ 4326.

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Seeking Hung Males

Bik male, 6'1", 180#, hung, clean shaven, muscular, seeking. Seeking other hung males for sex. Good butt a plus. ☎ 4331.

Hot Nasty Boys Only

4 long intense fucking, UB GWM/GLM, 25-35 yo, clean shaven, good shape, ready to spread 'em. Me: hard, hot, top, GWM, 40 yo, in shape, 5'6", 140#, brn/brn. ☎ 4244.

If You're Smooth

Smooth & clean shaven. Cauc wanted for adult fun & play with Asian boy! Make me your man! ☎ 4345.

North Bay Horny Dad Type

Seeks young guy for daytime fun. Non-posessive, no strings, no experience needed. Have fun with a man who will bring you pleasure. ☎ 4346.

FETISHES

Sneaker Sniffer! Bootlicker!!!! Too sucker! Mature, obedient, respectful, deep throat expert will kneel to worship & service well hung men who know what they want! ☎ 4139.

Flex Your Muscles

WM, late 40's, seeks muscular guy of any size into flexing, posing & being admired. Love baseball, biceps, hot pants. ☎ 4350.

Wet Your Muscles

WM, 28, shaved, smooth, great legs & ass, incredible grecy nipples ISO muscular hung fuckmaster to tease my twat. ☎ 4142.

Coming Out Party

I'm coming out, can you handle it? I'm SWM, 33, hot & attractive, tired of fantasy, want to start off with a gang-bang. TV's A+, HIV-. ☎ 4334.

Hung Big

Hot, 6', 35, 155#, goodlooking w/gym toned body, hung big sexs goodlooking top hung even bigger. ☎ 4335.

Mature Daddy Seeks Son

To love discipline, and offer guidance. GWM Dad is atrr, 73, 58", 170#, & his grecy obedient son is 18-45. LTR? ☎ 4336.

Daytime Action

Visiting SF. Stop by downtown hotel 12/26-1/15. Oral sex, Suit & ties. Verbal, boxer, A+, Me: 5'8", 145#, brn/brn, 38, 8". ☎ 4337.

Showing Off Assholes

Need to show my hole to Asians/watch them show their holes. Let's shamelessly/publicly examine, enjoy, discuss our exposed holes. GWM, 40, 5'11", 165#, 7X5, average looks. ☎ 4325.

Steam Heat

Gdking, bro/bro butch ISO top fuckbuddies w/br & who love to ride. Me: 5'11", 155#, br/br, 30. Your good shape, hung, Poz, 30-50. Suck, drink/DRINK. No drugs. ☎ 4325.

Cockplay-J/O, Oral, Kissing Pal

Enjoy being stroked by a slick hand. Your balls are sucking & tugged? Enjoy stroking another cock? seeking pal for discreet extra cock play wkdly. Me: HIV-, 5'11", 48, 167#. Friendly, nice guy. Enjoy all cocks. UCA A+. ☎ 4341.

Seeking Tops Under 30

You: sexy, horny, under 30, wants oral service and/or loves to fuck. Me: 35 yo, 5'10", 145#, 160#, loves to submit. ☎ 4347.

Wrestling/Boxing/Fighting

Strong, tough, and mean hairy skin head, 5'8", 160#, challenges punks, cowboys, bikers, all comers to strip down, climb into the ring, fight. Hairy balls, tattooed body, very hairy. ☎ 4239.

Scat And Water Sports

Average young looking 59, GWM. Seeking handsome guy between 22 and 45 for oral, w/s, whatever, br/br, HIV-. Bill. ☎ 4240.

South Bay Masturbation Rituals

Brotherhood of young masturbators seeks new members for phallic worship through various rituals: candles, rock-balls, chants, masturbation, all to celibate being male cocks, & cum. Half Penis. ☎ 4151.

VIP Hostess Of Colossus Tim X

I've searched all year for you. No one will help you. I miss you. Please find me by New Year's. My older brother you are. I'm Baaaby to you. ☎ 4354.

Country Dads Seek Obedient Son

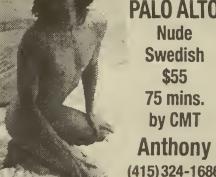
For a few good men. Sensitive, nurturing, safe & yet able to enjoy open masculinity erotic group play. ☎ 4313.

BAY AREA REPORTER

PERSONALS

MASSAGE

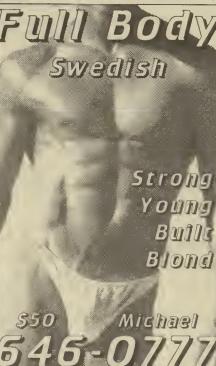

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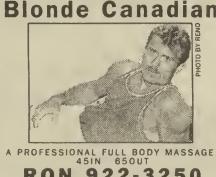
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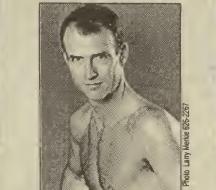

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Full Body Massage

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40 DARIN 626-3783

MASUER WITH IT ALL

I'm a tall strong built bodyworker, Who's goodlooking, has a very muscular build, firm hard touch and overall Knows what feels good. I can be rough Or gentle as you like. Start making the Right choices in 97-Give yourself over To a hot muscular man who will rub You right. Brad 664-1595

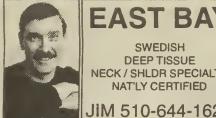

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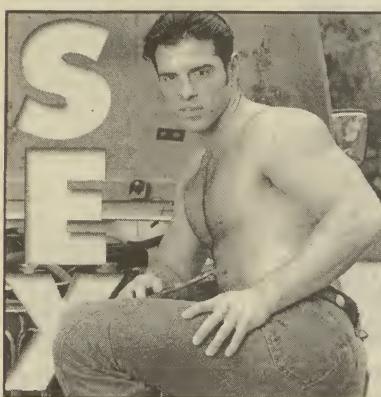
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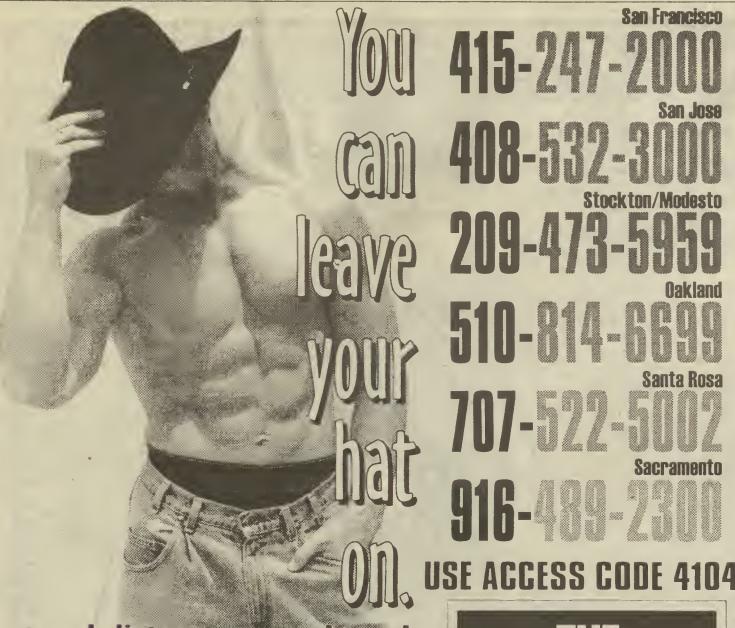
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Bondage fantasies 22yo 24hrs* 487-7662

Adam 38, 6'4", 195#, blu/blu, hairy
Handsome, clean-cut, hung, versatile
Top 24 Hours page 207-8089

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Get Lucky This New Year
Tall, Handsome, Athletic Stud
Pgr 207-5315

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Shaved Head, 23, 6'2", 170#
Clean, Safe, Out, 9X6 Uncut
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19 y/o Boy Toy 10 1/2 X 7

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80-100 Bryn Pgr 245-4325

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5'5", 130#, very smooth, clean cut, Grt
Looks, safe Franc \$100 Pgr 303-0887

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Try with one or two one \$60 two \$110

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Defined handsome stud with smooth buble butt, hung, masculine, East Bay \$100
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E01

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A true 9X6 on 6'4" Daddy, lean tight,
Muscle German descent 821-3425

E01

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Well Hung Black Top 273-1814

E01

GDLKG BLACK GUY

SHY JEFF 997-7307

E01

TROPICAL XTC!!!

Hot Latin top 26 y/o

X Hnsn, 155#, 30" W, 5'7"

Juan Out (415) 527-6096

HUNK/BODYBUILDER

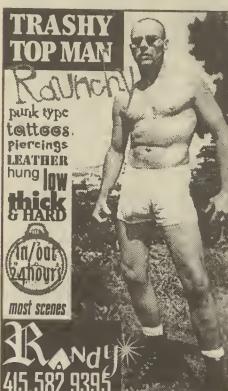
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E01

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★ STRICTLY TOP ★

Clean cut • Sexy Quality
Hung Long & XXX Thick • 24 Hours
OPEN TO ALL FANTASIES
JAMES 415-861-SEXX \$90



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Keep your heating cost down-snug
Up to this smooth swimmer's build,
Handsome 5'11", 185#, 25 year Old
Filipino! Sunday-Friday Evenings
After 8PM, Saturdays all Day/Night.
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Cute & Smooth Bubble Butt

20 Y/O ASIAN BOY

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hairy, clean-shaven, slim-build, solid

compact 552-2891 80 In/Out (top)

Get Passion

Sensual Massage By Tall Blond Texan

6'6", 195#, nice bod, beard 60/in 80/out

Attractive Attentive Affectionate

WAYNE • 252-7443

Handsome & erotic unassuming & masculine

hot & sexy nasty 24hr partytime your place

10X6 • 525-7627

Need some holiday cheer? I've got

Just what the Dr. ordered! 24yo

Whiteboy. Pgr 376-2068 \$80+

E02

Very Cute European Boy!

Tan/Smooth/Blue/Brown

BEAUTIFUL BODY!

Giovani 998-3754 In/Out \$100

E02

34, Vrst, kinky, 57", 130# Most scenes!

RED HOT REDHEAD

24hr, Affectionate, cuddly, 7" ct 929-1803

HOT LITTLE STUD

5'2", 112#, 26, Strong & Smooth

Long bl hair, Hot butt, Imagination

Mikey Out Only Pgr/VM 280-8049

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Slender, Athletic, Experienced Pro

23 y/o, Very versatile, fun to play with

24 hrs In/Out Travel 487-7662

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Hot Tattooed Pierced Cigar Smoking

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25 yr old experienced Master does

S/M Bondage, humiliation, flogging &

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Eric 719-4948 pgr, Call now slave!!!

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MARC BRODEY

UNCUT TOP

522-2925

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TREAT YOURSELF!

"Paradise in heaven?" I'm back in 97"

What more could you poss want than A 6'

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Football uniform fantasy. Tall, lean, QB

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SPANKERS

Paddlings & Body play the way you

always wanted it from Daddy. Hot 38

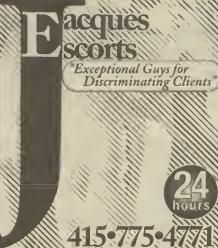
yo, top, hairy chest, sexy eyes.

Bryan Pgr 709-0016

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S/M SENSUALITY

-long, & slow-my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymanized
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
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Massage special 861-1671

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COLLEGE BOY 23

SEXY, SLENDER BOTTOM 85/8H

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Handsome Hung Versatile
Tall, Hairy, Blonde/Blue
Luke • 24 Hrs • Page: 605-4013

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Sexy, Handsome, 28 y/o

PENT UP AND READY

Muscular top, defined abs, hairy 8'
My motor's running; Let's see what
This baby can do!

Jeff \$120 In/Out 605-8487 pgr

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Both 23, well hung, short hair, clin cut
1 Bl/Bi, 5'10", Nice and Thick
1 Br/Br, 6', Beautiful Ass 522-8797

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TOP DOG

5'10", 175#, of hard defined-muscle

Masculine & Goodlooking

Pgr 207-6786

E01

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Big DUCK 776-8481

E01

HAIRY-HUNK 5'10" 180#

Needs Totally Oral

Service 303-1235

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23Y0 TIGHTBUILD HUNG TOP

HOT COLLEGE BOY

Clean cut, cute, no games, no bullshit

In/Out Ron Hm 752-3844 Pgr 741-5329

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REAL MAN

Tired of kids? Move up to a well

Hung, handsome, muscular stud who

Knows how. Pgr 207-6786

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Sexy Goodlooking Tom

HOT ASIAN

Pgr: 280-3735, phone 860-7311

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will travel. 24 hrs. Always friendly &

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5'2", 112#, 26, Strong & Smooth

Long Blonde, Hot Butt, Tiny Hands!

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Experienced Dominator

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6ft slim, smooth STUD

Bondage to Butt Play Top

Totally Equipped Playspace

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DOMINANT LEATHERMAN,
SM,BD, WS, CBT, FETISH,
ALL FANTASIES, 38yo,
6'1", 210#, BROWN HAIR,
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BEGINNER TO HEAVY.
HAVE EQUIPMENT

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Safe, sane, creative, + friendly.
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Real man, Unique Tats & Attitude Pre-
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Built Goodlooking-Satisfying 24 hrs
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E01

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Into leather, SM, bondage, WS, CBT,
fantasy, beginner-heavy. Have equipment

Scott (415) 790-0902. In or Out calls

E02

SAN JOSE
MUSCLE BOTTOM

From So. America. Sweet, Smooth,
Sexy, Cute, Exotic (408) 421-7163

E02

23yo, 5'8", 145#, 29w, 39c, smooth, cut

ASIAN GO-GO BOY

Strip Show/True Fantasies, All Bay

Hiu p(415) 313-9537, \$100 Out, Top

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KISSABLE SEXY

Cute, cuddle boy. Smooth tight body,

Great butt. Nice toy. You'll enjoy.

Troy Pr 679-1058

E01

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27yo masc, muscular & xtra handsome

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Sexy, Smooth Boy Loves to

Please, Tight Athletic Body 5'7",

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E01

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Sexy & Slender

Christian • 25 yrs old

Pgr: 469-2677

E02

BROTHERS 25 & 27

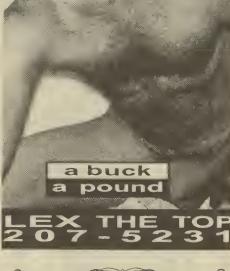
Masculine, white, athletic, hung Bone

each other for your enjoyment. The

Real Deal

Jason/David 267-5906

E01



PERSONALS

MODELS/ESCORTS

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Name	
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